

No 63,663

MONDAY MARCH 26 1990

## Archbishop to retire early Church faces battle after Runcie goes

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The retirement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, which was announced yesterday, launched the Church of England into a period of intense in-fighting and uncertainty, with its whole future at stake.

The battle for the succession is likely to be the most divisive this century and the Prime Minister will find herself having to arbitrate between factions who regard the possession of the church's leadership by their camp as vital.

Dr Runcie has to retire by his 70th birthday in October next year, and he took the occasion of the tenth anniversary of his enthronement to let it be known that he had decided to go nine months early, at the end of next January. Few in the church had expected the news so soon.

It is primarily the emotive issue of female ordination which will fuel the succession battle, with conservatives pressing for one of their own kind, possibly the present Bishop of Winchester, the Right Rev Colin James. Mrs Thatcher's immediate circle contains several Evangelicals, who would like to see an archbishop who would stress personal morality rather than social policy.

Such figures as Professor Brian Griffiths, head of her policy unit, and Mr John Gummer, Secretary of State for Agriculture - both active Anglican churchmen - are likely to figure in any informal

activity surrounding the Prime Minister's official role in the appointment.

Both would favour an archbishop who was conservative with both a small and capital letter, though among the candidates there are not many of the latter. Of all the bishops only the Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev William Westwood, has declared himself a government supporter.

In his statement yesterday, Dr Runcie said he had offered his resignation to the Queen now so that there would be sufficient time "for my successor to be known before the end of this year".

The first half of next year would be a time of fresh initiatives, he said, referring to the new structures coming into effect in the autumn to replace the British Council of Churches, of which he is president. He hoped his successor would also be able to attend the next World Council of Churches meeting in Canberra in February, and the Anglican primates' meeting in Belfast in April.

Warm tributes to Dr Runcie yesterday were led by Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and a close friend. "I am personally very sorry that Dr Runcie is retiring. I have valued his friendship very much and have always enjoyed working with him."

The Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev Robert Williamson, said: "The announcement is not totally unexpected but for those of us who have been working close with Robert Runcie it will bring a real degree of sadness. He has been a courageous and imaginative leader of the Church of England."

Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool Walton, and an Anglican churchman, deplored the fact that the Prime Minister would have a hand in appointing Dr Runcie's successor. Dr Runcie, he said, had put the church on the side of the poor and oppressed.

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, said a successor was needed who would eschew politics - "and no more waffle".

The Prime Minister's Office will undoubtedly be heavily lobbied in the next few months by Conservative MPs hoping to influence the selection process. She will keep them at bay by pointing to her strictly limited role, but the room for her influence is

considerable. On this occasion she has to appoint the chairman of the Crown Appointments Commission - normally chaired by one of the archbishops - and her parsonage secretary, Mr Robin Catford, will be one of the two secretaries to the commission.

In that way Downing Street can be kept in touch throughout the process, and would be in a position to send informal signals as to the acceptability to the Government of certain candidates. The commission has to submit two names to her, and she can either forward one to the Queen or ask for two more.

Because the Archbishop of Canterbury is also primate of the Anglican Communion, the secretary general of the Anglican Consultative Council will also sit on the commission on this occasion.

The rest of the Anglican Communion would certainly demand a fair hearing for non-English candidates, and this fact alone favours the chances of the Archbishop of Armagh, Dr Robert Barnes, who has taken a leading role in Anglicanism outside England. If it was felt necessary for the sake of overseas Anglican opinion to forward the name of a non-Englishman, it would almost certainly be his.

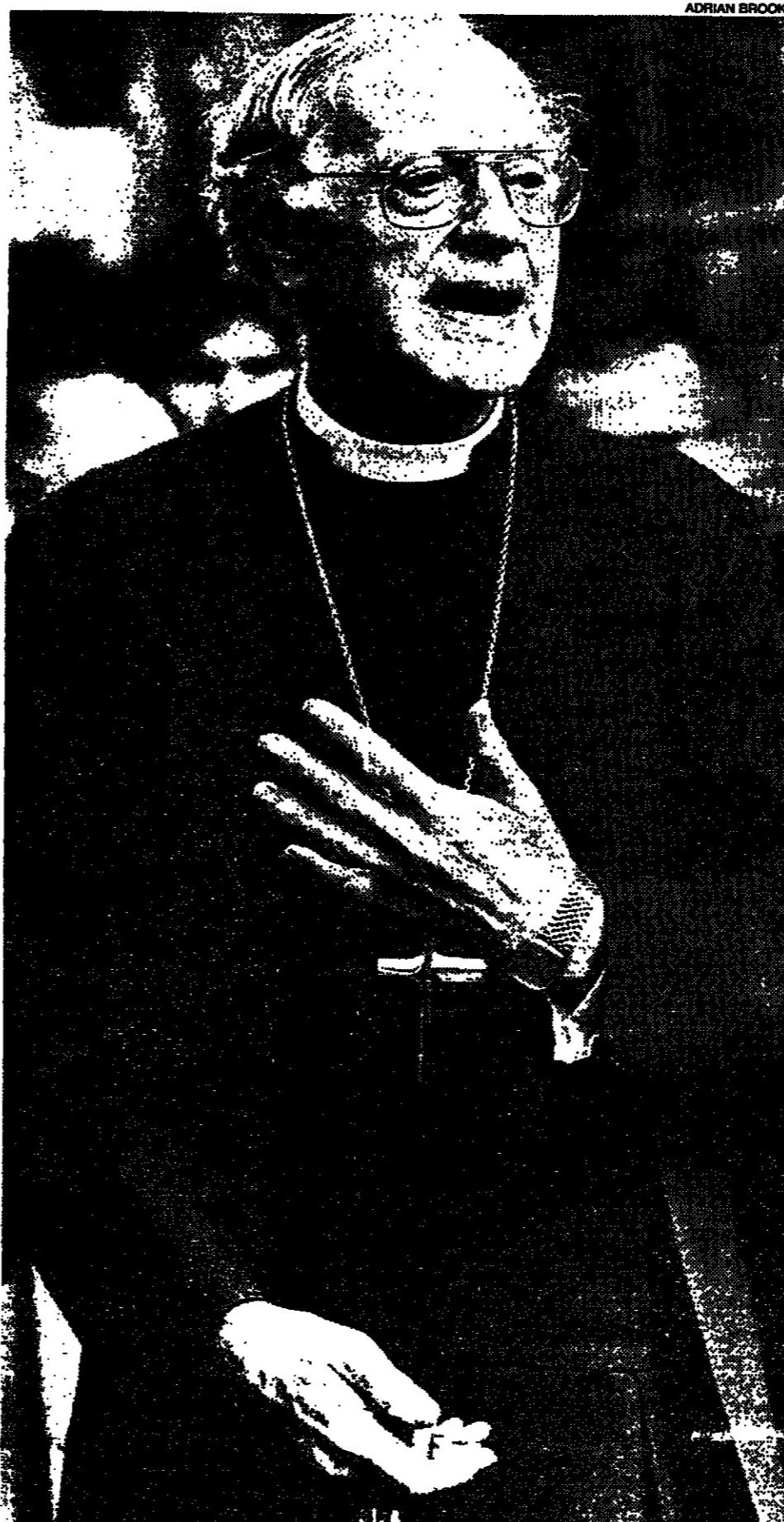
Significantly, supporters of Dr Barnes have been claiming for some time that they detect signs of Mrs Thatcher's support for him.

Unless the Archbishop of York reverses his decision not to be a candidate, the field is wide open with no obvious favourites, and at least 11 names are in circulation.

With the Bishop of London due to retire next year also, a consolation prize is also available. One of the reasons Dr Runcie timed his announcement now is thought to be so that his succession can be decided before the successor to Dr Graham Leonard in London has to be considered.

Dr Runcie said after presiding at a community service in Canterbury Cathedral yesterday: "It has been rather fashionable recently to say 'I am going in order that I can see more of my family'. There is an element of truth in that. I am going to do the washing up. I might even still keep an eye on some 20 black pigs which I have looked after for a group of handicapped children."

Active retirement, page 2  
Years of controversy, page 2  
Great achievement, page 12



Bowing out: Dr Runcie outside Canterbury Cathedral after his announcement yesterday.

### INSIDE

#### Test slump by England

England's cricketers were 237 for six at tea on the third day of the third Test at Port of Spain yesterday, a lead of 38 over West Indies. They lost three wickets in four balls during the afternoon session of play.

In the Brazilian Grand Prix at São Paulo yesterday, Alain Prost claimed his fourth Formula 1 victory and his first win for Ferrari... Pages 47, 48

#### Hungary poll

Hungarians voted yesterday in an election widely seen as a crucial test for the emerging East European democracies. Almost 30 different parties took part... Page 9

#### Power doubt

Crucial issues over financing the electricity supply industry remain unresolved five days before 12 distribution boards, two generating companies and the integrated Scottish supply groups are due to be converted into public companies before privatisation... Page 27

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#### Cup Final clash

Police arrested 68 football hooligans after the Zenith Data Systems Cup Final at Wembley between Chelsea and Middlesbrough. A woman police constable was taken to hospital with a broken hand after she tried to arrest a spectator.

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## Under-18 student loans scheme is unlawful

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

More than 100,000 undergraduates will be exempt from paying interest on part of their student loans from September about to embark on degree studies.

In an attempt to end the confusion, which has caused embarrassment at the Department of Education and Science, amendments will be tabled when the Bill's report stage opens in the House of Lords today.

Provisions will be inserted exempting students who have not yet reached their 18th birthdays from paying interest and will give the Government immunity under the Consumer Credit Act

Although there was no reputation over the weekend of

General Varennikov: Blames Vilnius for state of tension.

Provocation fear, page 8  
Crackdown by proxy, page 12

## Things that go bump in the middle of the road

By Brian James

Those Britons who feel that motoring began to go downhill when, in 1896, the law was repealed that required all automotive contraptions to be preceded by a man with a red flag, will take comfort in plans to calm the pace of the country's roads.

Among the options to be considered in May by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, is a 20mph limit in residential areas, and a six-way to enforce it. An army of "sleeping policemen" to enact an on-the-spot penalty of wrecked suspensions is preparing to take up its beat.

Mr Parkinson will easily demonstrate the need for action: warm evenings that tempted children out to play last autumn resulted in a sharp rise to 143 child deaths in street accidents.

High-street followers of the Mansell-Senna Tendency will argue: "Down to 20 mph! They kidding? It's a miracle if we get UP to twenty with all these women drivers..." Anyway, with the brakes on my F-Reg 4X-turbo I can stop from sixty on a sixpence." The counter from the prim-pushing, stick-propelled classes, who insist that most motorists could plausibly list their home address as "... of Toad Hall", will be that a 20mph zone will be no more honoured than any other of the statutory limits that replaced the stately-pacing red flagman.

It is no coincidence that the name

of the man who gave the 1900 trophy for races between cities also became a genteel term of abuse of the period: "Gordon Bennett!" Pedestrians would streak, diving for the hedge. Even the highly-respected Royal Automobile

Club was seen, when it began, as a way of banding together to play games to flout this law.

The enforcement of these 20mph limits (a return to a similar margin imposed in 1903) would not be left to conventional policemen in unmarked Cavaliers. Councils, now freed from D of T regulations, may construct as many of these humps as they wish, positioned at junctions, before bus stops and bends and even, in certain circumstances and well-marked with warnings, astride dual carriageways.

This is a powerful weapon for councillors, who until now could do little more than the rest of us to get action from the Government when traffic black-spots darkened their district. Lights and crossings at places where danger threatened seemed only to be granted post mortem.

Now a half-ton of corporation

tarmac and a half-day with the council steamroller will see a hump in place, local voters made happy, and all urban racers left facing this choice: either slow down, or go for the rally ace's "yump" with the certain consequence of costly bills for replacing sump or exhaust... and possibly panel-beating out of the car-roof's dent made by the head.

These plans will of course be resisted. As with past legislation on crash-helmets and seat-belts, as with coming proposals to harness rear-seat passengers to overcome the menace of ballistic grannies, some weird concept of civil liberties will be called in aid. Mass motoring has opened up the lives of millions. But it has also ended too soon the lives of too many for a sensible minister to be deflected from the most sensible restrictive measure

since... well, about 1896.

## Ministers rally to Thatcher's cause

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Senior ministers rallied to the Prime Minister's side yesterday as she faced one of the toughest weeks of her 11 years in power in the wake of the Mid Staffordshire by-election and weekend opinion polls showing Labour enjoying a record lead of up to 28 points.

Mr John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said she was "one of the most remarkable politicians for centuries" and predicted she would lead the Conservatives to victory in the next election and for some time thereafter.

Other Cabinet ministers also dismissed speculation that Mrs Thatcher would come under such intense pressure from disaffected backbenchers that she would be forced to step down.

"I am confident that she has the support of a large majority of the parliamentary party," one senior figure said.

Nevertheless, with backbench anxiety over the community charge now under way in Whitehall, with attention centring on ways of revising standard spending assessments to avoid a big surge next year in charge levels in the crucial period before the next election.

Today, she meets Mr Kenneth Baker, the Tory chairman, to assess the immediate response to the disastrous events of the past week and to plan a counter-attack.

The first fruits of that meeting and other discussions with Cabinet colleagues will

be seen on Saturday at the Conservative Central Council meeting in Cheltenham. Mrs Thatcher is likely to use the occasion to emphasize her determination to remain at the helm and give renewed impetus to her administration. She will urge her party to concentrate its fire on Labour.

A Central Council debate on Friday is certain to act as a focus for grassroots Tory anger over the way the community charge has been implemented and the speech by Mr David Hunt, the Minister for Local Government, will be closely watched.

A far-reaching reappraisal of the community charge is now under way in Whitehall, with attention centring on ways of revising standard spending assessments to avoid a big surge next year in charge levels in the crucial period before the next election.

More immediately, Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State for the Environment, has to decide how extensive charge-capping should be this year.

Backbench Tory MPs are demanding a tough line, but some ministers are arguing

that that capping will further undermine the accountability principle of the poll tax, a point made yesterday by Mr

Confirmed on page 24, col 2

Shadow campaign, page 6  
Leading article, page 13

## 87 killed in New York club blaze

From James Bone, New York

Fire swept through a crowded dance club for Latin American immigrants in the poor Bronx section of New York early yesterday, killing at least 87.

One witness said he heard gunfire shortly before the fire started and an unconfirmed report said petrol cans had been found in the building.

The bodies of 61 men and 26 women were pulled from the Happy Land Social Club in East Tremont district. Mr David Dinkins, the Mayor of New York, who visited the area, said an eviction notice had been issued to the club in December or January.

The two-storey brick building, which housed a Dominican group that organized children's baseball as well as adult events, covered an area

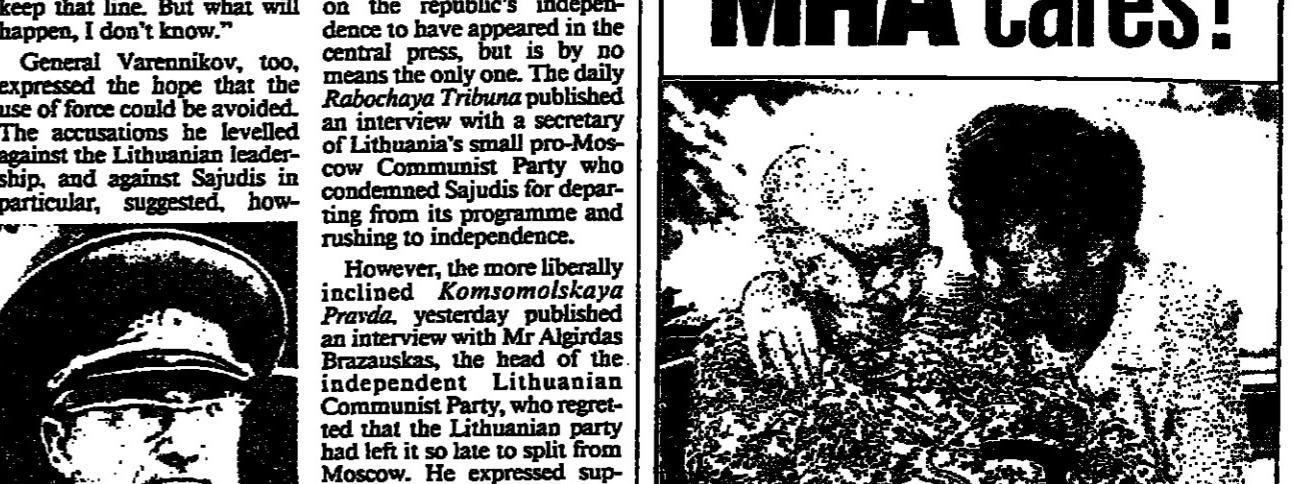
of only 20ft by 50ft. Most of the victims died of smoke inhalation, trapped among a group of tables on the first floor when the fast-moving fire broke out at 3.41am.

A Fire Department spokesman said the blaze had been declared "suspicious" but refused to comment on the report that petrol cans were found.

More than 100 firemen from 22 stations took two and a half hours to control the fire. Mr Robert Johnson, the Bronx District Attorney, who was at the scene, said: "If in fact it was arson, it was homicide."

The one known survivor is in hospital after being found wandering in the street, suffering from 50 per cent burns.

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# Runcie looks to active retirement

By Ruth Gledhill

Dr Runcie, the good shepherd of the Church of England, is going to turn pugnacious during his retirement, he said yesterday, soon after tendering his resignation to the Queen.

The time he will spend on his hands will be spent on his family, as a lecturer on Hellenic cruises, watching cricket and, no less a joy perhaps, tending his Berkshire pigs.

Visibly elated after presiding at a rousing communion service in celebration of his 10th anniversary in office, and gave a hurried press conference under the cold and windswept portals of Canterbury Cathedral on his way to Sunday lunch with his family at the nearby Old Palace, his official residence in the city.

Inside earlier, the 300-strong congregation had heard music and lessons which had been sung and said at services in the cathedral on the day of Dr Runcie's enthronement.

In keeping with the tradition of senior public figures announcing their resignation, he had on one arm his wife, Rosalind, who is suffering from bronchitis, and on the other their daughter, Rebecca, aged 27.

He said: "I have got a wife and I have got a family and I have not seen very much of them. It has been rather fashionable recently to say, I am going in order that I can see more of my family. There is an element of truth in that."

He said that it would now be his wife, a music teacher by profession, who went out to work, while he stayed at home to do the washing up.

He continued: "I might even still keep an eye on some 20 black pigs which I have looked after for a group of handicapped children." The Archbishop bought the 20 black Berkshires for the children,

of his farm in Aldington, near Romney Marsh, Kent.

Dr Runcie and his wife will live in St Albans. His first task, he said, would be to "unpack and sort out all the books, and sell off all the furniture I have needed in order to live in two large houses. I will unclutter my life and spend some time peacefully and quietly."

"I shall swim. I will take up my interest in Greek history. I will, I hope, lecture again on Hellenic cruises, which I used to do. I shall watch cricket."

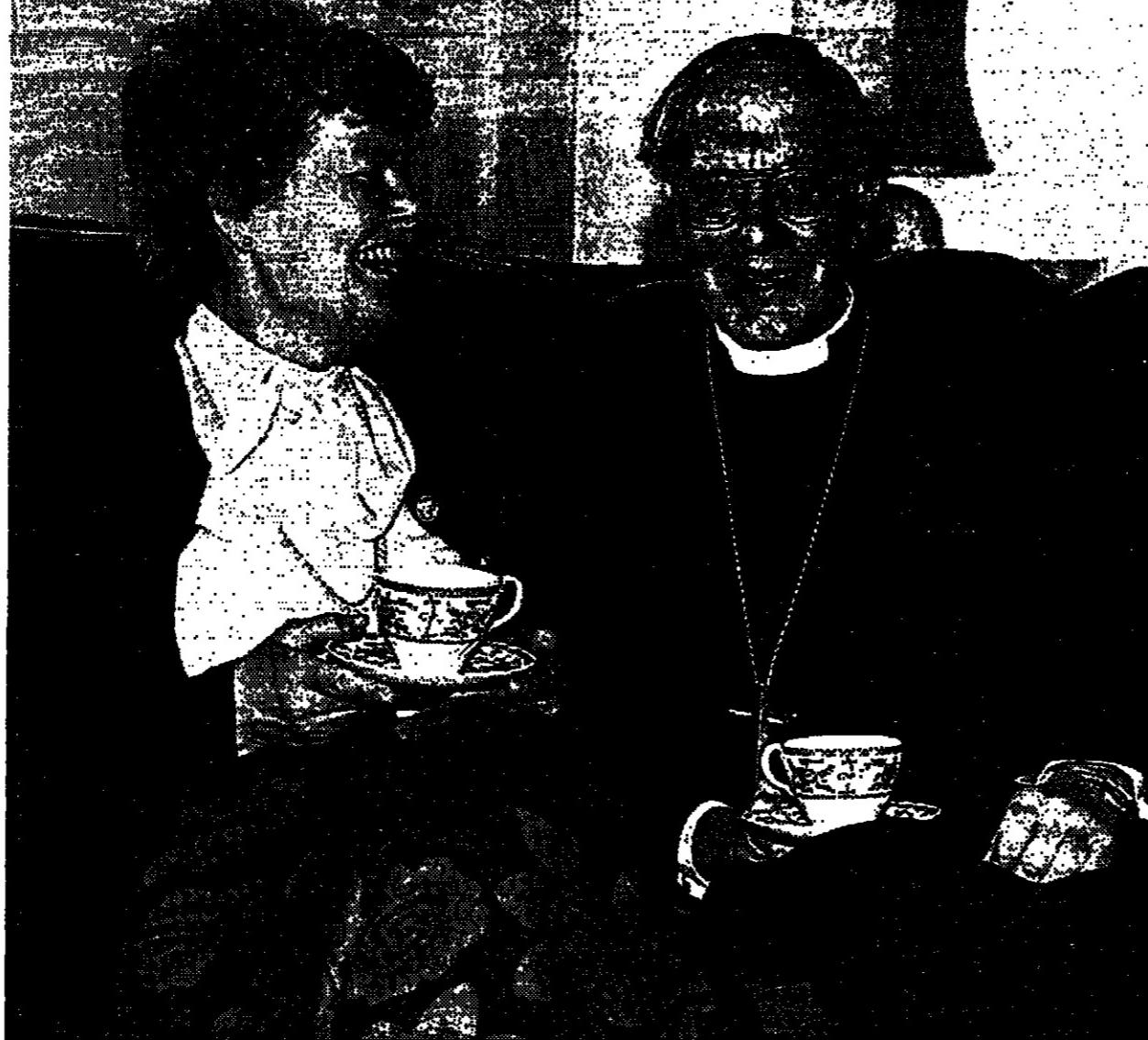
He said that he was resigning now because he had been in office for 10 years. "I think it is time to withdraw and hand over to somebody else. That takes a bit of time in the Church of England."

On the future of church affairs, he predicted "a decade of evangelism" and "new arrangements for ecumenical co-operation in this country".

He said that his chief hope before he retired was to meet and talk again with Mr Terry Waite, his kidnapped envoy. "My dearest wish would be that Terry and I could meet and talk again."

Dr Runcie said that he had no regrets about his controversial comment last year that Britain was in danger of becoming a "Pharisee society". He said: "I certainly don't regret what I said." What he did regret was "the way that it was taken out of context and misused".

Of his successor, he said: "I hope the Government will be looking for a person who is suitable to lead the church of this country and lead it in the Anglican communion and co-operate with other Christian bodies." Whoever his successor is, he should have the courage to speak out for his beliefs, he said. After years of



Dr Runcie relaxing with his wife, Rosalind, at their home in Canterbury yesterday.

speculation about his retirement, both the Archbishop and his wife appeared relieved to have the matter out in the open.

Mrs Runcie, who has attained world-wide renown in the Anglican communion for transforming the large garden

at Lambeth Palace, said: "We are very happy where we are, but there is the future to think of."

For other bishops' wives, visits to the garden were among the highlights of the Lambeth Conference in 1988. Mrs Runcie said: "I will be sad

to leave the garden at Lambeth Palace but I hope I will be allowed back there. And we have not left it yet."

As if in tribute to the historic announcement, the cathedral clock above the Archbishop and his wife stayed stopped yesterday at

about ten past six. This was due to no act of God, however, but to an accident which occurred while making the weekend's summer time change.

Great achievement, page 12  
Leading article, page 13

## At least 11 churchmen are under serious consideration to fill post

By Clifford Longley  
Religious affairs editor

At least 11 senior churchmen can expect their claims to succeed Dr Robert Runcie as Archbishop of Canterbury to be considered seriously.

All but one are English, and the non-English one, Dr Robert Eames, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, is likely to find himself on any short-list if only to placate opinion in the rest of the Anglican Communion.

Robert Eames, aged 52, Archbishop of Armagh since 1986, has let it be known that he is available.

The Prime Minister is said to see him as suitable. He is, like all Anglican Ulstermen, low church, but has made friends and gained influence with Irish Roman Catholic Church leaders. He has been a moderating influence on Ulster Unionism.

Dr Eames was appointed by Dr Runcie in 1988 to preside over an international commission in the Anglican Communion on female ordination. There is no hotter seat in the church, and Dr Eames loves every minute of it. He favours women priests.

John Habgood, aged 62, Archbishop of York

since 1983, has said that he is too old. He is, however, one of the most intelligent bishops in the Church of England by far, and he raises difficult questions: medical ethics, nuclear power, the church-state triangle, and moral values in a pluralist society.

He is also fairly tough and a rigorous thinker. He handled brilliantly the recent difficult negotiations with more than 30 churches in Britain, including the Roman Catholic Church, for a body to replace the British Council of Churches. He favours women priests.

Colin James, aged 63, Bishop of Winchester since 1985, is fourth in the Church of England hierarchy (London, Winchester and Durham enjoy automatic seniority after Canterbury and York). He has a warm, avuncular manner which comes over well on television, and indeed was himself once a television producer. He is conservative on doctrine, which would bring him Evangelical support, though he is in fact an Anglo-Catholic and will be the standard bearer for the ambitions of that party (roughly a third of the Church of England). Sources close to the Prime Minister say that he is well thought of

politically. He bitterly opposes the ordination of women.

Mark Souter, aged 53, Bishop of Birmingham since 1987, is close to Dr Runcie, and was appointed by him to handle Anglican-Roman Catholic theological relations. He has made an intelligent and good-humoured job of it, and his diplomatic skills have prevented a serious split. He has shown himself somewhat left-of-centre on the merits of the disestablishment of the Church of England. He favours the ordination of women.

John Waine, aged 59, Bishop of Chelmsford since 1986, is highly regarded by bishop-watchers, but has kept a low profile on the national stage. He was formerly Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and has a quiet reputation as a "man of God". The lack of a controversial track record would make him a good dark-horse candidate.

Michael Baughen, aged 59, Bishop of Chester since 1982, was once Rector of All Souls', Langham Place, central London, sometimes known as the Evangelical cathedral. As such, he is commonly regarded by Evangelicals as their leader. He is strong on personal morality, and the

family, although some regard him as too compliant towards liberal theology.

Keith Sutton, aged 55, Bishop of Lichfield since 1983, knows well the rest of the Anglican Communion, particularly Africa, where it is growing fast. He was sent by Dr Runcie to support Archbishop Desmond Tutu when an assassination was feared. He is popular, with no enemies, of moderate Evangelical persuasion, and would be a compromise candidate.

David Sheppard, aged 61, Bishop of Liverpool since 1973, is probably the most respected of all the English bishops for his integrity and compassion. Definitely left of centre and also famous for captaining the England cricket team and for being "twinned" with his Roman Catholic opposite number on Merseyside, Archbishop Derek Worlock. He would be a difficult choice for Mrs Margaret Thatcher. An undoubted Evangelical he has close Roman Catholic ties.

Richard Harries, aged 53, Bishop of Oxford since 1987, is a former dean of King's College, London. He is an astute theologian, tending towards the conservative side in doctrine, but very modern, cultured and personable. Like Dr

## Ten years of controversy and triumph

By Mark Soister

The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Robert Runcie's tenure at Lambeth Palace has been dogged by controversy.

The 1980s was a decade in which the Government and the Anglican Church appeared diametrically opposed on many social issues and when the Church of England was in the nation's mind at least, the moral opposition to the Government. However his primacy will also be remembered for several personal triumphs.

March 1980: Dr Runcie enthroned as 102nd Archbishop of Canterbury, succeeding Dr Donald Coggan.

May 1982: Pope John Paul II received at Canterbury Cathedral.

July 1982: Government anger at Falklands memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral which was felt to be insufficiently triumphant. Dr Runcie said in his sermon: "In our prayers we shall quite rightly remember those who are bereaved in our own country and the relations of the young Argentinian soldiers who were killed."

September 1984: Dr Runcie criticized handling of the miners' strike and said miners should stop treating its opponents as "scum".

October 1984: Concern expressed at Government economic policies, saying on behalf of poor and unemployed: "How long can we wait for jam tomorrow?" He called for leadership to "unite not divide the nation."

December 1985: *Faith in the City* report inspired by Dr Runcie published. It criticized

the state of inner-cities, inner-city schooling and employment opportunities. Dismissed by one Government source as Marxist theology.

January 1987: Personal envoy Terry Waite disappeared in Beirut attempting to gain release of Western hostages; an event which has caused him most personal anguish.

December 1987: Anonymous attack on Dr Runcie in preface to *Crockford's Clerical Directory* said he was weak and indecisive, preferring to go with the will of the majority rather than acting on firm principals. The author Dr Gareth Bennett, an Oxford don, committed suicide.

December 1987: Dr Runcie supported Bishops' refusal to ordain any practising homosexuals.

March 1988: Under fire from all sides for saying homosexual priests could live together if they did not have a sexual relationship.

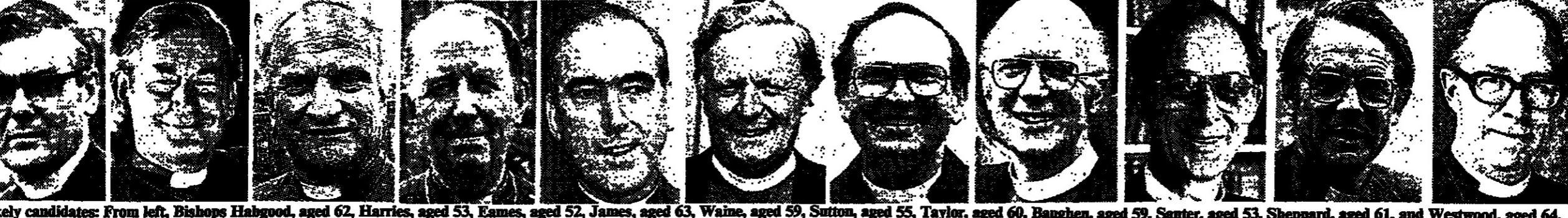
July 1988: Lambeth Conference attended by 600 bishops regarded as a personal triumph for Dr Runcie who presided and set the agenda.

October 1989: Spoke of emergence of the "Pharisee society" of self-interest and intolerance in Britain.

September 1989: Visited Pope John Paul II in Rome to confront breach with the Roman Catholic Church over female ordination.

November 1989: Voted for the ordination of women measures in the General Synod.

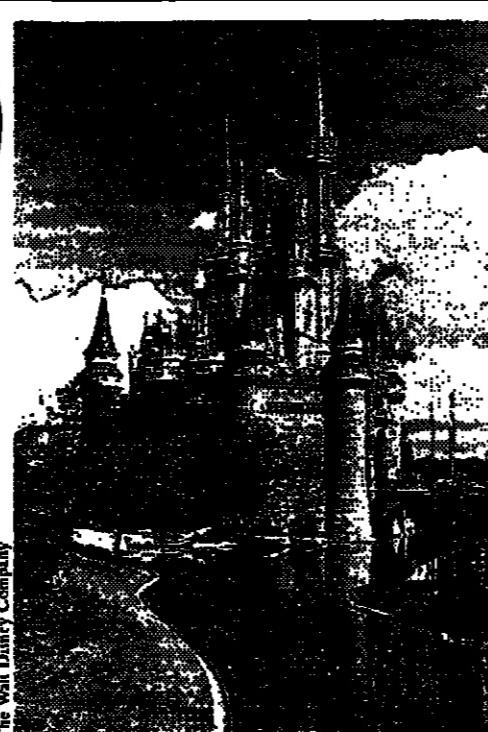
March 25 1990: Announced resignation with effect from January 31, 1991.



Likely candidates: From left, Bishops Habgood, aged 62, Harries, aged 53, Eames, aged 52, James, aged 63, Waine, aged 59, Sutton, aged 55, Taylor, aged 60, Baughen, aged 59, Souter, aged 53, Sheppard, aged 61, and Westwood, aged 64.

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## Traditionalists call for successor 'in touch with the man in the pew'

By Mark Soister

News of Dr Runcie's resignation was greeted with sadness by Church leaders, with praise for his courageous and imaginative leadership.

Within the political world there was mixed reaction, with one Conservative MP criticizing him for failing to stand up to the "trendiness and even atheism which exists in some parts of the Church of England".

His Eminence Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Britain, said: "I am personally very sorry that Dr Runcie is retiring. I have valued his friendship very much and have always enjoyed working with him."

The Bishop of Bradford, the Right Rev Robert Williamson, said in a statement: "The announcement is not totally unexpected, but for those of us who have been working closely with Robert Runcie it will bring a real degree of sadness."

"He has been a courageous and imaginative leader of the Church of England during a

particularly difficult period of its life. His leading role within the worldwide Anglican Communion has been superbly and sensitively exercised."

At Westminster the announcement prompted a call from Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool Walton, for legislation to change the system whereby the Prime Minister names the successor. Mr Heffer, a leading Anglican in the Labour Party, said it was wrong that a prime minister, of whatever party, should have a say in determining the successor.

"They will obviously have to make the choice before the end of the year and it is unlikely that we could get legislation through in time to change the system. But I would be very happy to see that done."

Commenting on Dr Runcie's career, he said: "Dr Runcie has had a very difficult task and he has shown great skill and managed to keep together the Anglican Communion in Britain and in the world. I think he has done a very good job under great

difficulties. I also think that during his term of office some of the documents produced have been fundamentally on the right side of the basic Christian argument of support for the poor and the oppressed throughout the world."

Mr Harry Greenway, Tory MP for Ealing North and convenor of Conservative Christians in Parliament, said: "While I know the Archbishop has done his utmost, there is no doubt that the Church has weakened considerably both in influence and membership during the past few years."

"A successor is needed who will eschew politics and preach the gospel fearlessly and brilliantly. We need a cross between the spiritual greatness of Archbishop Ramsey and the administrative brilliance of Archbishop Fisher - and no waffle."

"The Church in future must be outwith politics and interference with government and in ordinary men, women and children, their needs and aspirations and religious - but not political - beliefs. In some ways it has been a disappointing archiepiscopate from a man of great gifts and strong faith but one who has not stood up to the trendiness, deep insincerity, and even atheism which exists in some parts of the Church of England."

Mr Peter Bruinvels, a former Tory MP and now a member of the General Synod, said: "I hope we can have a more traditional successor. We must now go back to representing the man in the pew with traditional doctrine and worship - and the Church kept out of politics."

Mr Simon Hughes, Southwark and Bermondsey MP and Liberal Democrat spokesman on Church of England affairs, said: "The Archbishop should be thanked for a very good decade's work. He has ensured the voice of the Church has been heard and has been relevant in tumultuous times for Britain and the world."

"The whole of the Anglican Communion owes him a great debt."

## Thatcher will choose from two names

Dr Runcie's successor, the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury, will be appointed by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister, who will have been offered two candidates selected by the Crown Appointments Commission (Mark Soister writes).

Mrs Margaret Thatcher can choose either even if the commission expresses a preference for one appointment.

The process by which those names are arrived

en years of  
controversy  
and triumph

RK

THE TIMES MONDAY MARCH 26 1990

HOME NEWS

3

# Court of Appeal too cautious on retrials, Bar says

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Court of Appeal is criticized by the Bar Council today as "excessively cautious" in ordering retrials in cases where fresh evidence has been produced.

In evidence to the May committee of inquiry into the Guildford and Woolwich cases, the Bar Council attacks the Court of Appeal for "usurping" the function of the jury.

The court looks at fresh evidence itself instead of considering the effect this might have on the jury at the original trial, the Bar says. "The result is that in cases of fresh evidence, retrials are seldom ordered."

The Bar Council calls for a statutory right to be introduced to allow new evidence to be considered by a jury and it says the Court of Appeal "should ask itself whether the evidence is new, relevant and capable of making a difference to the reasoning of a jury".

"If this low threshold is passed the appellant should have a right to a retrial."

The Bar Council makes a number of other recommendations for reforming the way the criminal justice system deals with alleged miscarriages of justice.

It accepts that the Court of Appeal should retain its general discretion to quash a conviction. However, the Home Secretary should refer all cases where there are grounds for believing a verdict is unsafe or unsatisfactory.

The Home Secretary makes a referral only where there is fresh evidence which casts doubt upon the original verdict. "This cannot be a proper

exercise of the Home Secretary's discretion. It amounts to a refusal to refer to the Court of Appeal any case where there is fresh evidence," the council says.

The Bar Council also argues that where a person petitions the Home Secretary after exhausting the appeals machinery, the petition must be investigated by a legally-qualified person and not, as now, by a civil servant normally without legal training.

The council says that in serious cases a confession should be verified in its material details by other evidence. It does not make any proposal ruling out the conviction of a defendant on the basis solely of confessions.

The Bar Council says there may be some force in recommendations that there should be other evidence to support a confession if it is obtained in breach of codes of practice on questioning, or from a vulnerable person.

It says police should disclose all material in a case to the Crown Prosecution Service which must in turn pass it all to counsel, after which counsel must ask if there is any material which has not been brought to its attention.

The council also says it has found resentment by police officers "growing into a feeling that the defence will merely dig into the unused material and come up with some smokescreen to put before the Court of Appeal."

Incompetence could be a reason for a continuing investigation, either by the review body or an independent solicitor. The Home Secretary should retain his powers of referral.

The council urges better education of police officers and clear rules on recording of documents and objects found.

It also recommends:

## Six go in purge on Militant

By Kerry Gill

The Labour Party has expelled six members in Scotland in its latest purge against the Militant Tendency.

One of those thrown out, after a hearing by the party's national constitutional committee in Glasgow, is Miss Lynn Sheridan, sister of Mr Tommy Sheridan, chairman of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation.

Another is Mrs Margaret Dick, a Strathclyde regional councillor, who was suspended from holding office in the Labour Party last March.

Mr Jimmy Allison, Labour's Scottish organiser, said all those expelled were found to be members of Militant Tendency after a lengthy investigation of their activities.

Mrs Dick said that the hearing had been a "show trial" and her accusers could find nothing more damning than that she had appeared on anti-poll tax platforms.

"They have been trying to compile evidence against me, but I deny being a member of Militant," she said.

Others expelled at the weekend were Miss Kirsten Walker, a member of the Labour Party's Young Socialists, Mr William Bill, and Mr George McNeile, said to be a "right hand man" for Mr Sheridan.

Mr Bob Wylie, once Militant's Scottish spokesman, was also formally expelled although a Labour Party spokesman said that he had already resigned.

## School leavers' lack of drive 'is hitting Britain'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A huge divide threatens to split the young into a new generation of haves and have-nots, and the deciding factor is education, a survey conducted by a team of academics has shown.

The spirit of enterprise is increasingly absent among early school leavers, comprising a substantial sector of British youth according to a new survey funded by the Economic and Social Research Council.

The most comprehensive study yet of almost 6,000 young adults, aged 16 to 19, carried out by more than 20 academics from five universities, has exposed a "tremendous" gap in attitude and thinking between those who leave school at 16, with few or no qualifications, and teenagers who continue with further education.

What makes the situation worrying for Britain is that about 50 per cent of teenagers leave school at 16 and often shun further training — far more than in most other European countries.

The project, co-ordinated by Professor John Byner of City University in London, shows that Britain's teenagers lack personal ambition and drive — but want good pay and prospects. Shouldering responsibility, using initiative and making decisions on their own does not figure high

on their list of priorities.

Professor Byner said yesterday: "There is a tremendous gap between young people who are staying in the education system, quite a small proportion in comparison with everywhere else in Europe, and those who leave."

"The generalization about lack of entrepreneurial spirit applies particularly to those who leave at the age of 16, largely unqualified."

"Those who stay on for A levels have, like their counterparts in Europe, aspirations and will postpone earning money to get really good prospects and good jobs. The new professional classes in this country are the same as anywhere else."

He highlighted the "staggering" difference in the proportion of largely unskilled youngsters in Britain who alternate between unemployment and part-time work — "anything up to 25 per cent of the population under 18".

"That is far, far higher than you would expect in other Western European countries. Our main competitors, West Germany, France, The Netherlands and Scandinavia, have nothing comparable."

The introduction of new technology into industry over the past ten years had wrecked the youth labour market by making it far harder for unskilled youngsters to get jobs.

## Huge rebates and equity shares lure home buyers

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The battle to sell new homes has led to offers ranging from a discount of up to 30 per cent to equity share schemes in which the buyer pays half now and the rest in five years.

In London's Docklands, worst affected by the property slump because of an oversupply of flats and overpricing caused by the boom years until 1988, it is claimed that of 48 new schemes on the market, 36 have offered price reductions, sales incentives or have been "receptive" to offers.

Those figures come from the property consultancy DP3, which says that in addition, some higher priced schemes have been discounted up to 30 per cent and sold to investors.

Two weeks ago, Wimpey, one of Britain's largest builders, launched equity share schemes at 10% of its sites. Instead of the 50-50 schemes which several developers have brought in, Wimpey's is a 70-30 plan, under which the buyer pays 30 per cent of the full purchase price and has five years in which to pay the balance.

Wimpey has introduced the scheme at both its up-market developments such as in

Sunningdale, Berkshire, where the four- and five-bedroom houses cost between £350,000 and £375,000, and its cheaper schemes where the houses are priced at £60,000 upwards. Several properties have been sold under the scheme.

Rosehaugh Partnership Developments brought in a 50-50 scheme at three London developments in February, selling out in two (not in Docklands) and selling more than half of the 64 units at Vogan's Mill in Docklands.

Two days ago they repeated the exercise at another Docklands development, New Caledonian Wharf, and had seven flats reserved on the first evening.

Mr Ian Rowberry, managing director, said the 50-50 scheme had put some breath into the property market. Estate agents agree that while it may hold difficulties in the future if buyers cannot complete the purchase, it has acted as a pump primer to attract buyers back into the fray.

The interest caused by these schemes has been immense. Mr David Goldstone, managing director of Regalstan, which last month launched its 50-50 offer at 600 flats in

Docklands and elsewhere, said that 3,000 people had visited the sites in four weeks, against 300 visitors in the past year.

Of 257 initial reservations, there had been a failure rate of about 45 per cent — compared with 30 per cent in normal times — but 140 remained reserved.

Fairclough Homes, which launched its scheme in January with backing from the Abbey National and Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society, has sold 65 flats at Cyclops Wharf on the Isle of Dogs in Docklands (half the total), 24 at King and Queen Wharf, Rotherhithe, (one-third) and 18 (three-quarters) at Hyde Park Gate, Kensington, almost all to owner occupiers.

The consultancy DP3 believes that discounts and favourable inducements to help sales will be needed for a year more in Docklands to keep the market going.

For the buyer this could be the time to buy, if he or she has enough money to take the gamble of paying for 50, 70 or 75 per cent now and hoping the rest will be there in five years' time.

## Mothers' Day posy from a princess

TERRY RICHARDS



Princess Beatrice, 19 months old, stands with her father, the Duke of York, after giving birth to her second daughter on Friday night. She was also visited for an hour yesterday afternoon by the Princess of Wales.

## AGENDA The week ahead

Monday In the Commons MPs will finish their debate on the Budget, and pop stars will group around Mr Dave Nelfin, the Militant MP, to chorus support for the anti-poll tax campaign. Environmentalists gather at St Paul's to urge protection of peat bogs. The declaration of the return elections for the T&GW executive is likely to bring good news for Neil Kinnock.

Tuesday Shopkeepers launch a renewed attempt for reform of the Shops Act; drug users' families report on life with junkies; Mr Alastair Morton, Mr John Prescott and others meet in Folkestone to debate the possibilities for transport and life after the Channel tunnel.

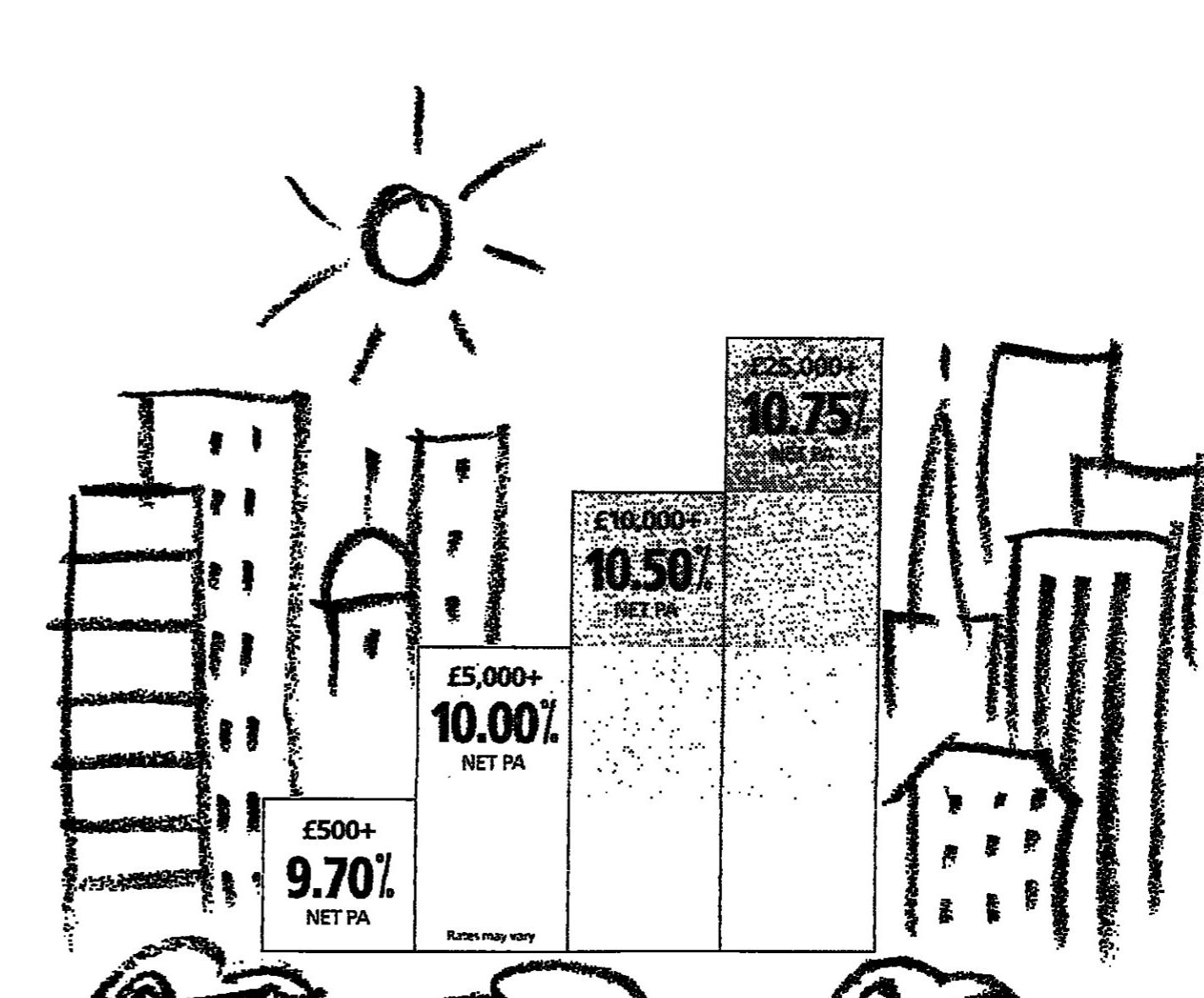
Wednesday Labour's national executive meets in London. Clowns convene in Bognor Regis. Authors protest at the Government's plans for public libraries. A memorial service is held for Farzad Bazoft, the journalist executed as a spy.

Thursday The Commons debates the Budget changes to the community charge benefit regulations, and Lambeth council meets to fix what is expected to be the highest community charge in the country — £650 a head.

Friday An Anglo-German summit convenes in London with Chancellor Kohl and the Prime Minister. Mrs Barbara Castle, who introduced the breath test, will attend a conference on drink-driving at the University of Essex in Colchester.

Saturday Protesters should be out in fair force — against the poll tax in many towns, and against Trident at Aldermaston and Barrow-in-Furness. Oxford are expected to win the university boat race.

Robin Young



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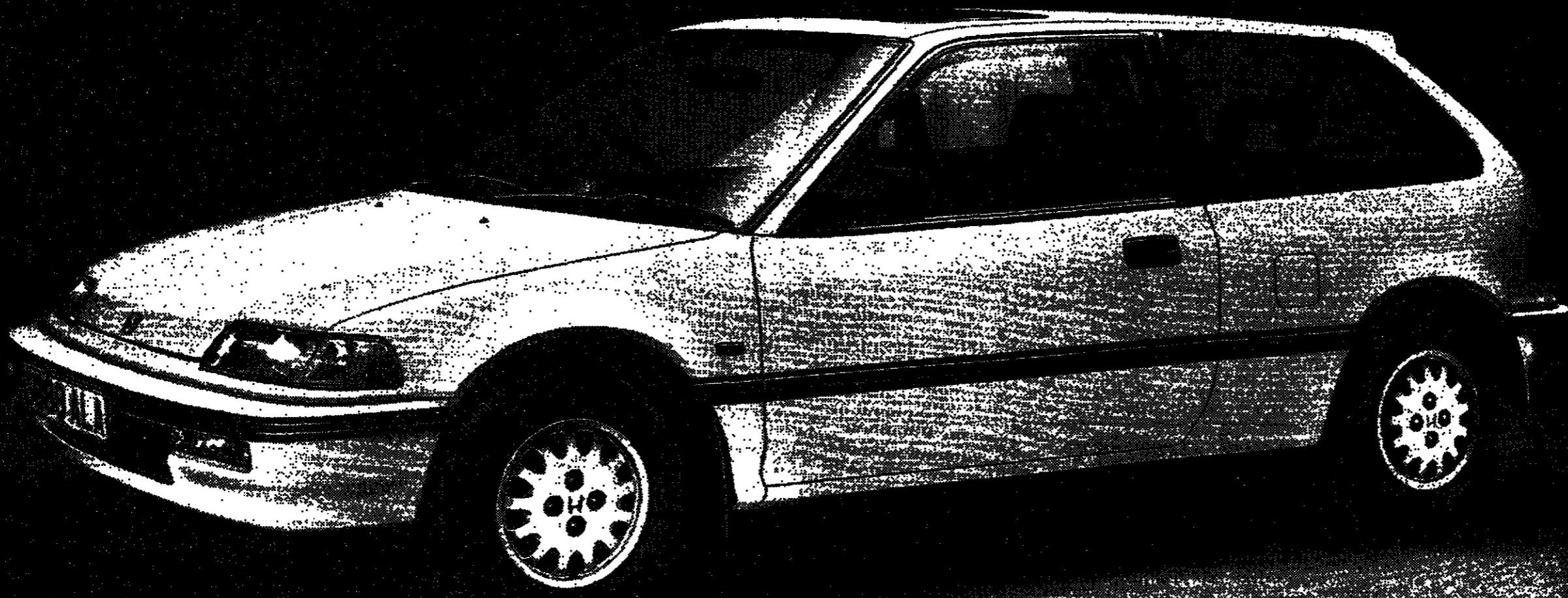
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## Agriculture incentives 'destroying countryside'

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

Much of the European Community's expenditure on agriculture is still geared towards boosting unwanted production and is destroying the countryside, according to a report by a leading conservation group published today.

Inflated prices and subsidies continue to make it economic for farmers to rip out hedgerows, drain wetlands, overstock moorland, razed woodlands and plough up extra acreage for crops, the Council for the Protection of Rural England maintains.

"Contrary to claims, the common agricultural policy is essentially unreformed," Mr Andy Wilson, the assistant secretary of the council and author of the report, said in an accompanying statement.

"Our aim is to shatter the cosy world in which decisions on farm spending are taken by farm ministers for farmers, and to expose the huge spending on environmentally damaging incentives."

Only 3 per cent of the total £1,200 million spent by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 1989-90 went "on measures which specifically support environmentally friendly farming", the report says.

One welcome development had been the introduction of environmentally sensitive areas, where farmers could apply for grants to restore or preserve features of the traditional landscape. However, these areas cover only 1.2 per cent of the farmed acreage of the United Kingdom. The council says such grants should be available throughout the countryside.

The publication of the report coincides with the opening in Luxembourg today of a two-day meeting of EC farm ministers to fix support prices for 1990-91.

The European Commission has proposed a "freeze" at the existing price level. However, the council argues that support prices are still too high. It recommends their reduction, and that farmers should be paid direct grants linked to the adoption of less intensive agricultural methods.

It says that the EC is still producing more cereals, beef, milk, butter, sugar and wine than it can consume. The

*Paradise Destruction: How Europe's farm policies are destroying the countryside* (Council for the Protection of Rural England, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PF, £6).

### Whitehall Brief

## Apprenticeship route to ethics

Sir Robin Butler, the head of the Civil Service, said in a recent interview that the way the top ranks of Whitehall acquire a sense of right and wrong in public administration, a feel for what is proper and what is not is through "apprenticeship".

There is no need, he implied, for anything as formal as giving civil servants training in ethics as long as the old hands were passing on their wisdom, and rectitude, to the young striplings. And — to the grief of those who would like to systematize everything — Sir Robin's informal model seems to be working still.

An example is Mrs Terry Banks, who retires next week as director-general of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. There was nothing in her career before becoming director, doubling up as Registrar-General, that specially fitted her for the particular ethical responsibility of that office ensuring that the most intimate data about members of the public were protected.

She came to OPCS after the Treasury and the Department of Health and Social Security (as it then was) to apply a dose of managerial rigour and that, by all accounts, she has accomplished. But what she has not done (this was threatened earlier in the 1980s) is damage OPCS' reputation for reliable data-gathering.

The OPCS Mrs Banks came to in the mid-1980s was a survivor. It had received the attentions of the Rayner efficiency scrutineers, for whom such Victorian values as a solid demographic information base for the nation's sake did not count for much. Mrs Margaret Thatcher's privatization enthusiasts had also had a go at its social survey work, suggesting that private opinion pollsters could be brought in.

The price of OPCS survival was cost-cutting and

David Walker

## Farmers take to water as floods force standstill

MIKE WALKINSON

By Kerry Gill

This morning, Mr Robert Lindsay, a Scottish farmer, will start up the outboard motor on his 12ft boat to take his two children across 500 yards of choppy, wind-whipped water to school.

Mr Lindsay's 200-acre farm does not lie on a remote island in the Outer Hebrides. It is in the middle of Perthshire, 30 miles from the open sea.

For more than seven weeks, West Haugh farm near Meikleour, Tayside, has lain largely under water and the family home has been cut off by the River Tay, which has burst its banks in the worst flooding in memory.

When the rains began falling in early February, Mr Lindsay and other farmers in Strath Tay, Tayside, and tributary valleys believed their problems would be short-lived. Since then, however, continuing storms have left West Haugh farm cut off from dry land, with the Lindsay family having to sail across a stretch of water of between 500 yards and three-quarters of a mile, depending on the previous night's rainfall.

Flooding, largely due to burst flood banks on the river's edge, has left some of Scotland's richest farmland virtually unworkable, with top soil eroded, crops ruined and debris-strewn fields resembling a lunar landscape.

"I have been able to do no farming since," said Mr Lindsay. "About 40 acres are still under water and where it has

disappeared, the ground is saturated. It could be like this for another six weeks. Every time the water goes down, it rains again."

All his winter fodder was lost, his 50 head of cattle had to be airifted out and, unless he is able to sow by the end of next month, his barley crop will be non-existent this year.

From Loch Tay to Perth, other farmers tell a similar story of drowned lambs, flooded fields, silage and straw destroyed, and little prospect of being able to sow crops because of field erosion.

Mr John MacNeill, area secretary of the National Farmers' Union in Perth, said a neighbouring farmer had to call a helicopter to airlift his pregnant wife to hospital. At another farm, between 30 and 40 acres of land disappeared, leaving nothing but bedrock after 100 metres of riverbank was washed away.

"The whole thing is quite frightening. Many farmers from Pitlochry to Perth are facing ruination," Mr MacNeill said.

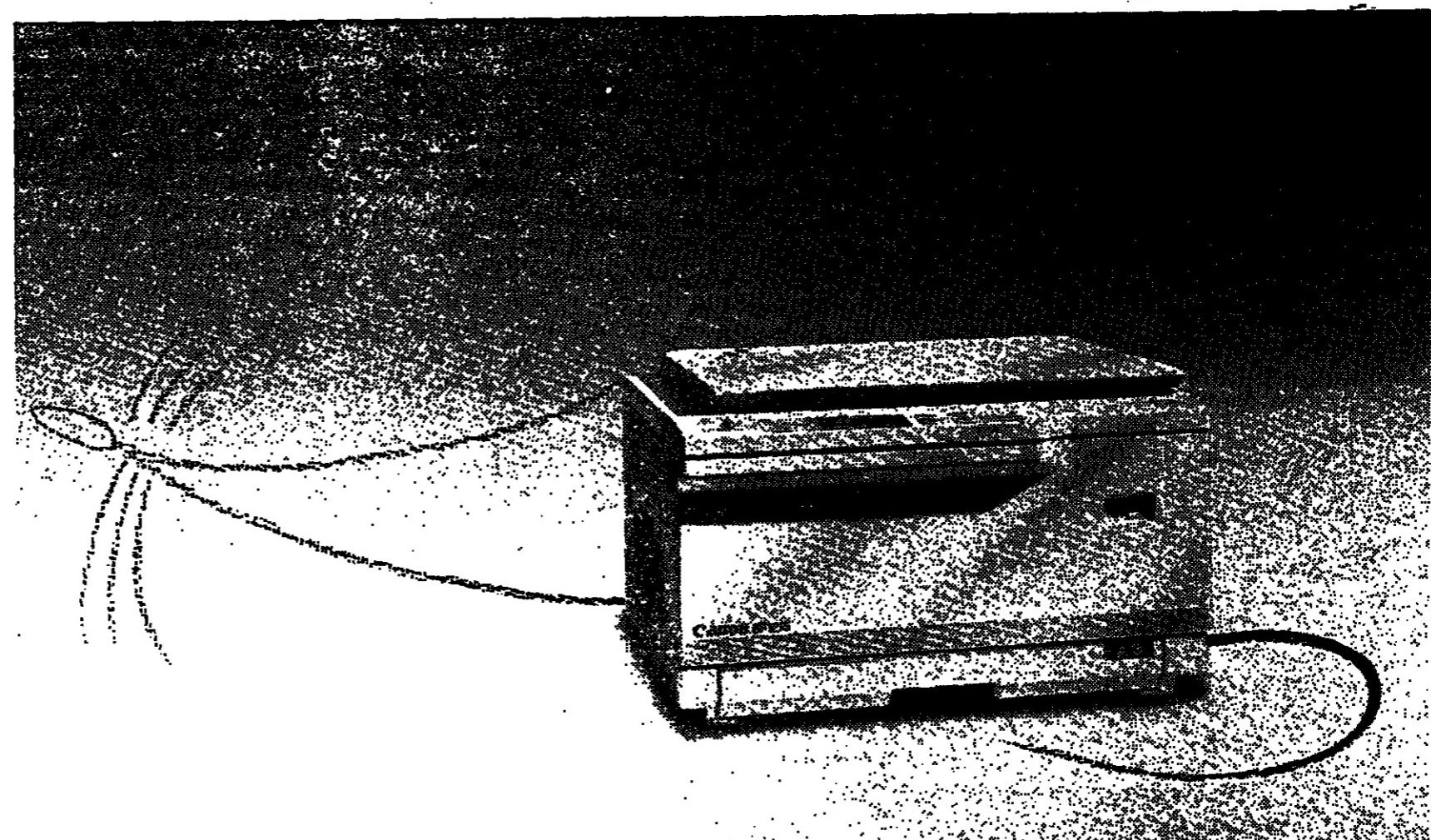
On Saturday, farmers are to hold a meeting in Dundee to discuss the flood damage and are expected to demand substantial financial aid from the European Community.

Lord Sanderson, Minister of State with responsibility for agriculture at the Scottish Office, has already announced that £500,000 will be made available to farmers to repair breaches in floodbanks.



Mr Robert Lindsay (standing) and his brother Peter swim across the 10ft "lake" now covering 40 acres on their farm.

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# MacGregor resolves to end exam confusion

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is preparing to take legal powers to regulate GCSE examinations in biology, chemistry and physics. In place of the three sciences the council wants an examination at the age of 16 in an integrated subject, science. Pupils who passed the new subject would be awarded two GCSEs.

The "double award" proposal has angered the public schools, which fear it will leave pupils unprepared for A Levels and degree courses in individual sciences. The Prime Minister is known to take a cool view of the plan and Mr MacGregor is likely to come under pressure to reject it.

Under the Education Reform Act all examinations proposed by schools to pupils aged between five and 16 have to have ministerial approval.

The single science examination proposal is linked to the National Curriculum in which science is one of three core subjects which must be taken by all pupils.

The Government's policy allowing schools to opt out of local authority control has paralysed attempts to cut costs by reorganising schools to remove surplus places, Mr Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman said yesterday.

He called for new guidelines to help local authorities in the wake of a High Court ruling last month which overturned a decision by Mr MacGregor to allow Beechen Cliff School, Bath, to opt out to avoid a reorganisation plan.

A spokesman for the AEB, the biggest A Level examiner in Britain, said: "We are responding to pressure from sixth form colleges who find it very hard to persuade students that they should do more than re-sit GCSE if they got low grades first time round."

"Re-taking exams can be dreadfully boring. We wanted to add a little spice to their studies and provide a qualification that was worthwhile in its own right. Students scoring 60 per cent will be told their result is equal to a Grade C at GCSE, the equivalent of an O Level pass."

Fresh conflict over the place of science in the school curriculum between senior ministers and the Government's main adviser on examinations seems certain despite attempts at conciliation over the weekend.

It follows a decision by the

Ministers will be told this week that they should be "blind to the binary line", which divides the two higher education sectors, and allow polytechnics to openly compete for the £1.6 billion spent on research by the Department of Education and Science each year.

A report by the Institute of Economic Affairs, to be sent to Mr John MacGregor, this week is highly critical of "inconsistencies" in government research policy.

Enthusiasts admiring Renoir's "Le Moulin de la Galette" in London yesterday,

**SALE ROOM**  
By John Shaw

time; illustrate the life, the vivacity, the atmosphere and personalities of late 19th-century Paris."

The record for a Renoir is held by "La Promenade" (1870), sold by the British Rail Pension Fund for £10,340,000 on April 4 last year. It was bought by the Getty Museum in Malibu, California. But "Le Moulin de la Galette" is expected to vault that easily to fetch between \$40-50 million.

"La Moulin de la Galette" is on view at Sotheby's, New Bond Street, London W1, today and tomorrow, 9am-4.30pm.

Modigliani's painting "La Belle Epièce" fetched a record price for a Modigliani of £7.3 million when it was auctioned in Paris yesterday.

The private papers of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the great Victorian engineer, responsible for the great West-

ern Railway and The Clifton Suspension Bridge among other engineering feats, have been saved for the nation and will join the main archive of his material at the University of Bristol.

The deal follows protracted negotiations by the National Heritage Memorial Fund, which has bought a collection of 15,000 documents from the family for £477,000.

Americans were outbid for examples of their artistic heritage by the Japanese at Christie's 20th-century decorative arts sale in New York on Saturday.

Tiffany lamps fetched way over their estimates: a lamp with a dragonfly border fetched \$132,000 (estimate \$82,500) and another with yellow and white fish sold for \$104,500 (£65,312). The Japanese have been buying up art glass for some months.

Art nouveau furniture also did well. An inlaid mahogany dining table made \$66,000 (£41,250) and a serving table reached \$55,000 (£44,375).

## Scots give £1m to keep Three Graces

By John Shaw

Scotland has joined the battle for Canova's "The Three Graces" which could enter a new stage this week as trustees of the Victoria & Albert Museum meet to discuss the next move to keep the statue in Britain.

Mr Timothy Clifford, director of the National Galleries of Scotland, gave the £7.6 million public appeal a major boost at the weekend by announcing a £1 million pledge, nearly two-thirds of its annual purchase grant.

The figure is three times the £330,000 raised by the V & A appeal launched in January. Unless the Government delays issuing an export licence the sculpture will be sold to the Getty Museum in California in 10 days time.

"Scotland does not have anything by Canova," Mr

Clifford said yesterday. "Lord Crawford, a Scotsman, appreciated him in the early 19th century. One of his pieces is in the royal collection and three others are in the Louvre. We feel this statue should be kept here and a suitable home would be in Edinburgh."

He said his trustees had watched the progress of the appeal very closely, but did not want to compete with the V & A. "This is a most important piece of sculpture, and the main thing is for it to remain in this country."

Mr Clifford's move was welcomed by Mr Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage.

He said the gesture "emphasizes the importance yet another major museum attaches to keeping this work in this country".

## Police hurt in clash at illegal 'pay' party

Police officers were attacked by a 1,000-strong mob hurling missiles as they tried to break up an illegal warehouse party in Cambridgeshire yesterday.

Party-goers strayed on to the Norwich to Ely railway line after trouble erupted when police tried to stop the "pay" party near the hamlet of Shippes Hill.

Over 100 officers were involved with reinforcements from neighbouring counties and a number were injured in what a senior officer called "a serious incident of public disorder". Thirty-five people were arrested.

### Body found

The body of Miss Emma Hearn, aged 20, of Hampstead, north London, is thought to have lain for four days in her car, which crashed into a ravine near Lampeter, Dyfed, before it was discovered by a farmer at the weekend.

### Late traveller

Mrs Annie Dawson, who was born 14 years before the Wright brothers made the first powered flight, had her first air trip from Manchester to Heathrow and back as a 101st birthday present from British Airways.

### Home stolen

Thieves have stolen the caravan being used as a temporary home by a Scottish couple in the grounds of Harefield Hospital, Uxbridge, west London, where their son, John Carr, aged five, is undergoing major heart surgery.

### Fridge threat

A plan to distribute fridge thermometers is being considered in Whitehall to try to cut domestic food poisoning. Scientists have carried out experiments using simple liquid crystal thermometers.

### Boy crushed

A boy aged 12 was crushed to death by bales of paper in a factory yard near his home. Jason Smith, of Thorne, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, was playing on the stacked bales, when they collapsed, trapping him.

### Brick attack

A man aged 66 suffered a fractured skull when a brick was thrown at close range through a window on a Sunderland to Newcastle train while it had stopped at signals.

### Crash kills two

Two people were killed and another two were seriously injured when a car spun off the M23 and landed upside down in a ditch on a slip road to Gatwick airport.

# Shadowy campaign for Heseltine moves closer to the limelight

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine's shadowy campaign for the leadership of the Conservative Party will take a step forward this week when he rises on Thursday to open the prestigious international Königswinter conference in Cambridge.

Waiting in the wings of this annual gathering to further Anglo-German co-operation will be Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl, but the eyes of the media will again be focused on the former Cabinet minister who has emerged as the one man who could oust the Prime Minister this side of a general election.

In Mid Staffordshire where the Tories went down to a humiliating defeat, thanks to the poll tax and crippling mortgage repayments. Mr Heseltine, once the darling of the Conservative conference, was feted by hundreds of party members and almost as many journalists.

Similar media interest awaits him in Cambridge, but once again the former Defence Secretary, who walked out of the Cabinet over the Westland affair in the most dramatic resignation of the post-War period, will do nothing to rock the boat.

He doesn't have to; the boat is being rocked for him.

Back at Westminster, Tory MPs returning from their constituencies after one of the grimmest weekends in the Thatcher years will speak of little else but the prospects of a challenge to the Prime Minister this side of a general election.

Their anxiety will be fuelled by a rash of weekend opinion polls showing Labour's lead in the polls stretching up to an unprecedented 28 points. But what will really catch their eye is the finding - by MORI and ICM for *The Sunday Correspondent* - that with Mr Heseltine at the helm their problems would be nothing like as great.

So what, precisely, is the former Cabinet minister's strategy as events move towards the climax he has sought since his resignation

four years ago and is there an organized campaign operating on his behalf?

There appears to be no plot, at least not in the organized sense. Mr Michael Mates and Dr Keith Hampson, his two best known Commons lieutenants, are probably now more in demand than at any time since Westland, but no one can produce evidence of anything more clear-cut.

In addition to these two, there are any number of Westish MPs and former ministers, such as Sir Ian Gilmour, whose differences with Mrs Thatcher are well known.

Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East, is one of the few prepared to join Sir Anthony Meyer in stating his reservations publicly. "I am sure Mrs Thatcher will draw the essential lessons for the long-term

orchestrate it. Michael is the one tree in the forest that hasn't moved. The world is moving around him."

However in the cynical world of Westminster, such protestations of innocence are unlikely to impress Mrs Thatcher's followers, especially those who have received friendly weekend telephone calls from Mr Heseltine inquiring how they perceive the political landscape.

Yesterday, his supporters were claiming that he now has the backing of as many as 100 Tory MPs.

The next step will be to increase the already intense pressure on the Prime Minister in the weeks leading up to the May 3 council elections.

Every slip will be used to feed the

## Man who brought business and hope

By Ronald Farz

When Mr Michael Heseltine donned ministerial flak-jacket to do battle among the smouldering streets of Toxteth, his impressions of Liverpool were manifestly grim.

The city left him with the same sense of stupendous dereliction that Wigan forced upon George Orwell when he first visited that northern town.

Both wrote unfalteringly about their experiences. Orwell came, saw and departed; Mr Heseltine came, saw and then haunted the place for three years until he was promoted as Secretary of State for Defence, persuading, bullying, energizing and organizing until the great seaport from which the ships had sailed and not returned started to regain confidence in its future.

Wigan still celebrates Orwell even though he despised the place. Will a statue of Mr Heseltine ever gaze across the Mersey to mark the undoubtedly legacy he has left the city?

The paradox is that so much should be owed to a devout Tory by a city that became determinedly socialist - extreme left-wing socialists at that. While local politicians acknowledge that, they are apt to separate Mr Heseltine from what they perceive to be Tory philosophy.

Tory councillors have become an endangered species in Liverpool: there are only two on the city council. But within the party, Mr Heseltine's achievements over the Toxteth riots must rank high on his curriculum vitae as a potential leader. They represent doggedly won victory against high odds and an ability to steamroll himself into the respect of those to whom Conservatism is anathema.

ICM concurred, putting the Opposition 19 points ahead, and NOP for the *Observer* found that Labour's advantage had more than doubled to a staggering 28 points in the last month. But one opinion poll does not make a summer, as our chart of the parties' fortunes since Mrs Thatcher came to power in 1979 shows. She has been this way before - most notably two years after first gaining power - though she has never been so far behind a single challenger.



Start of a mission: Mr Heseltine in Liverpool in 1981.

returning confidence. Yet five years earlier it was an appalling eyesore, mainly railway yards that had lain unused for a decade, a great sprawl of industrial wasteland.

It was a silent but eloquent rebuke to a society where it was always someone else's responsibility. Nobody bothered. You drove through Liverpool, you looked at this terrible place, and you drove on.

Mr Heseltine who persuaded Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, to lead the experiment to set up the high technology park at Wavertree along California lines. Within weeks Wavertree Technology Park Ltd was established.

Reclamation, landscaping and servicing the area needed £6.5 million of government funding but since then £25 million has been spent on buildings and an estimated £75 million invested by private industry. Soon, 40 companies will have moved to the park. Wavertree was a significant result of Mr Heseltine's didactic approach to his inner-city task but there have been others.

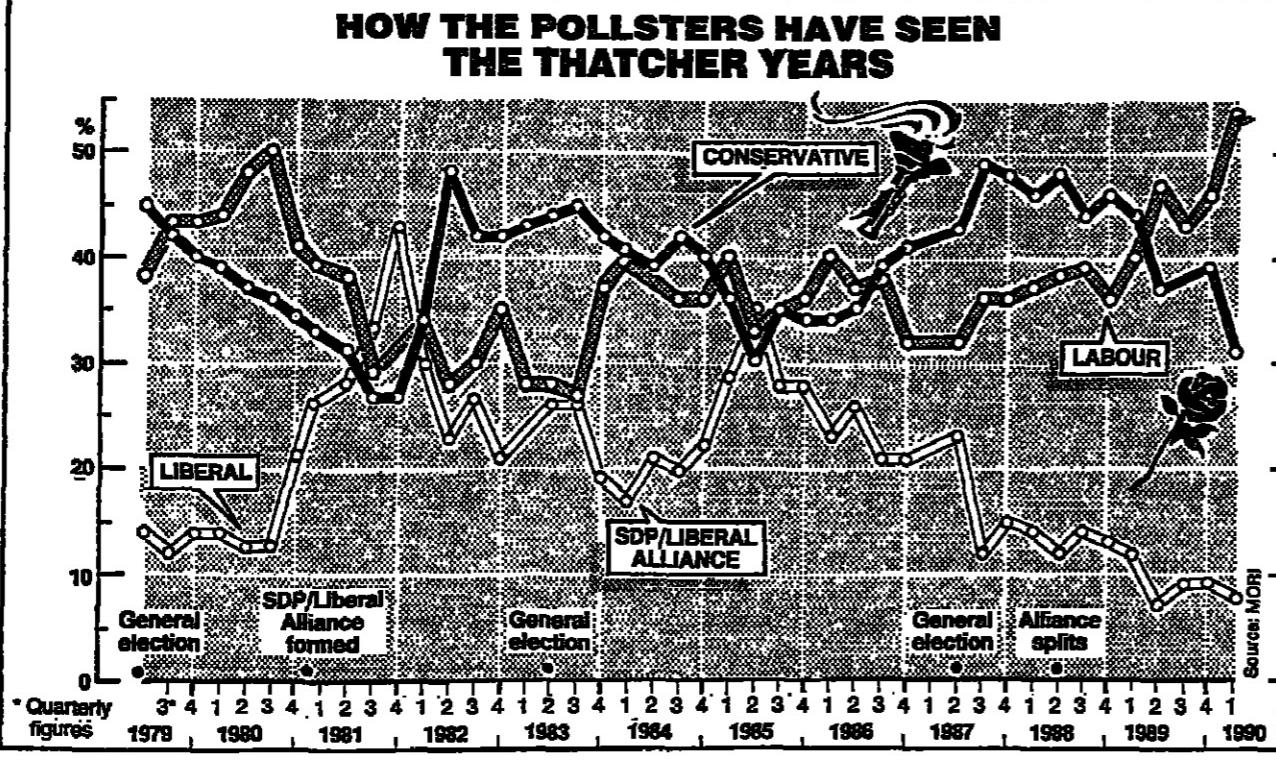
Easily the most eye-catching has been the revival of the city's famous waterfront. That has been the work of the Merseyside Development Corporation, set up by Mr Heseltine in 1980 as an inner-city initiative.

Since then have come housing schemes, yacht marinas among yet further waterfront developments, the famous garden festival which has left its own legacy of improvements and tens of millions of pounds ploughed into an improved Merseyside.

Mr Heseltine, still a regular visitor, can look at the ranks of derelict dock warehouses transformed into two million square feet of elegant office space, the art galleries and cultural life and most of all the clear signs of a great city returning to greatness.

Industries looking for a new base drive on at their cost.

### HOW THE POLLSTERS HAVE SEEN THE THATCHER YEARS





*A tea-break for steelworkers at Hightield Steel, an Anglo American subsidiary, where 90% of the workers are shareholders.*

## ANGLO AMERICAN SHAREHOLDERS MEETING. SOUTH AFRICA, NOV. 1989.

In late 1987, we launched the Anglo American Group Employee Shareholders Scheme.

(The first and only share scheme to be run by a mining group in South Africa.)

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That's 73% of the eligible workforce.

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People who probably haven't had much chance to accumulate even modest capital in the past now have a stake in the free enterprise system.

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The scheme initially brought some suspicion,

particularly from the black trade unions.

Were the shares in lieu of a wage increase? Were they a bribe for industrial peace?

We think we've managed to convince most people that these suspicions are quite unfounded, and that the scheme has great benefits for all.

It promotes a greater sense of belonging and hence participation in our operations. We're even examining a scheme to help employees buy extra shares with their own funds.

It's all part of a firm belief we share at Anglo American.

That the more people who have a stake in the creation of wealth in South Africa, and so can take charge of their own lives, the more prosperous and democratic the future of the country will be.

**ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

# Landsbergis alarm over communist 'provocation'

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius

"Provocations" by the Soviet Communist Party in Lithuania and the linked organization, Yedinstvo (Unity), may be imminent, President Landsbergis and the Lithuanian leadership fear.

They believe these might be accompanied by the Soviet military acting against deserters, leading to full-scale intervention. The leadership doubts whether such a move would be with the approval of President Gorbachov; some think might be a unilateral action by local Soviet security forces or Yedinstvo.

Mr Romualdas Ozalas, the Deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday that he had "clear evidence" that members of Yedinstvo would storm the Supreme Council in the night. "If there is resistance, the army will help them," he said.

Mr Ozalas said he had been told this by a soldier, who had said that on Saturday night "paratroopers in cars had been ready to go, but they were not sent out". The soldier had said that other soldiers expected yesterday to be sent to storm the Supreme Council building in the night.

Mr Ozalas said that he had seen 20 trucks arriving yesterday at Vilnius Airport.

At the Supreme Council, government aides, including several Lithuanian Americans helping with publicity, were pulling the curtains against possible rocks or even bullets.

Meanwhile, the former Marxism Leninism Institute in the city centre has been occupied by soldiers.

President Landsbergis's concern increased sharply yesterday after seeing an advanced copy of today's edition of *Sovetskaya Litva* (Soviet Lithuania), a Russian language newspaper. This is the old name of a paper renamed last year *Lithuanian Echo*. The renaming of the paper this weekend, and the tone of the leading article, has suggested to the Lithuanian leadership that it might be rehearsing justification for use of force.

The leading article says that renaming the paper *Lithuanian Echo* was irresponsible. The editors had no right "because Soviet power still exists in Lithuania". The paper pledged to defend this power. The paper's editors declared that the Lithuanian Communist Party is no longer Communist, and after the

Congress of the Soviet Communist Party in Moscow in June it would lose even its name.

The paper bitterly attacks "bourgeois nationalism" and the "illegal" Lithuanian Government.

Reports have been coming in of increased KGB activity across Lithuania, although these are impossible to verify.

Big demonstrations by the Yedinstvo movement had been expected at the weekend, but Mr Valerii Ivanov, a leader, said on Friday that the movement was concentrating on the local elections in Vilnius and other cities. Almost half of the population of Vilnius is Russian or Polish speaking, and Yedinstvo was hoping to do well in Saturday's elections.

Preliminary results yesterday, however, suggested that Sajudis, the Lithuanian national movement, had won a majority.

Yedinstvo leaders are understood to be planning a demonstration outside Lithuania's Supreme Council on Tuesday evening, at which the Sajudis Government and declaration of independence will be denounced as illegal.

Moscow loyalists have occupied several Communist Party offices in Vilnius in the leadership conflict with the Lithuanian Communist Party. The later is composed of the communist majority which broke with Moscow in January.

The Soviet Party in Lithuania is overwhelmingly composed of Russians and Poles. There have been reports that the party and Yedinstvo are organizing "workers militias" from these nationalities to hold factories in the name of Moscow.

Most Lithuanians still feel that large-scale military intervention is unlikely, and the deserters remain under the protection of the Lithuanian Red Cross at the psychiatric hospital in New Vilna.

Large-scale action is being discounted by many experts from Moscow, who say that President Gorbachov would not risk the international damage that this would cause. But others refer to Marshal Akhromeyev, who said on Friday that Soviet law on military service will be enforced "no matter how bad it looks to the world".

Proxy crackdown, page 12



Two Lithuanian conscripts who deserted from the Soviet Army registering with Sajudis, the Lithuanian Popular Front, in Vilnius during the weekend.

## Son follows his father's steps in Lithuania crisis

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

At 3am on Saturday, as Soviet tanks rumbled menacingly through Vilnius, the Lithuanian parliament resolved that its Chargé d'Affaires should have full authority to act in its name, if Moscow were to order a military crackdown.

The Charge, Mr Stas Lozoraitis, who is at present in Europe, will have experienced a chilling sense of déjà vu.

Exactly 50 years ago, on the eve of the Soviet Union's military annexation of the Baltic republic, the last Foreign Minister of free Lithuania sent out an uncannily similar message giving almost identical authority to Mr Lozoraitis's father.

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No diplomatic corps has ever done what we have," Mr Lozoraitis Jr told the *Wall Street Journal*. "For 50 years, representing a state that no longer existed, we have carried on, working, living, dying. It is a pity my father isn't here to see all our efforts come to such a conclusion."

A fortnight later, with Moscow flexing its military muscles in an attempt to cow the Lithuanians into submission, the word "conclusion" looks decidedly premature.

As he toured Europe on what his legation will only describe as "urgent business" for his country, Mr Lozoraitis will be praying that the events of 50 years ago are not about to be replayed.

The 16th Street mansion which houses the Lithuanian Legation in Washington grew

## Papal warning against force

From Richard Bassett Rome

The Pope yesterday urged "a sincere dialogue within the framework of international law" to solve the present crisis in Lithuania, and at the same time Vatican sources indicated that Soviet military intervention in the Baltic would have serious repercussions for the diplomatic relations established only this month between the Eternal City and Moscow.

On his weekly prayers in St Peter's Square, before a congregation of thousands of pilgrims, some of whom carried Lithuanian flags, the Pope urged a "just and peaceful solution" to Lithuania's problems and hoped that God would help those responsible.

Although he did not mention the Russians or President Gorbachov, it was clear the Pope was warning Mr Gorbachov he would lose Vatican support if he used force in dealing with Lithuania.

The Pope's thinly veiled warning to Mr Gorbachov not to resort to force reflects not only the Pope's fears for Lithuania.

According to Vatican sources yesterday, his words also expressed his deep concern for Lithuania's neighbour, Poland.

A reversal of the policy of *glasnost* would have disastrous effects for Eastern Europe, particularly Poland, thanks to its geographic position. Unlike the Lithuanians, the Poles have clearly steered away from confrontation with Moscow in order to win gradual freedom.

"It is important the change in Eastern Europe does not endanger the Soviet Union's security interests, and only a prolonged negotiation can achieve this", a Vatican source said yesterday.

After Moscow and Vilnius, the Pope's prayers yesterday will be listened to more carefully in Warsaw.

## Independence demanded at Georgian rally

From Nick Worrall, Tbilisi

Police sealed off a part of central Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia, yesterday caused elections there to be postponed. And in a dramatic development last Tuesday, the outgoing Georgian Parliament — dominated by the Communists — voted to postpone the elections until October.

For months radical nationalist groups had threatened to boycott the elections. But the decision came when the most centrist Popular Front shifted its position last week and demanded a multi-party election.

In a mood of compliance, which nationalists attribute to a fear of seeming obtuse while communist parties in Eastern Europe are being obliterated, the Communist majority also decided to end its own constitutional right to rule. It acceded to the Popular Front's wish for a six-month delay to allow newly forming parties time to organize for elections.

But it was not clear what means the party had in mind for bringing down the statue. One spokesman denied that it had planned to use explosives. Large crowds quickly gathered to hear speeches from Georgian nationalist leaders under an array of flags, but there was only a limited police presence.

On April 9 last year paratroopers wielding entrenching tools and using CS gas killed 20 men and women during a demonstration at the same spot. Since then the Georgian authorities have been anxious to keep tensions subdued.

Yesterday was to have been election day in Georgia, with the republic's voters choosing their new parliament. For the first time they would have had a choice of Communist Party and non-party candidates. Most of the Soviet Union's 15 republics have held similar elections over the past two months. But unrest and violence in Georgia's neighbouring Caucasian republics,

"The Soviet Union occupied Georgia in 1921. We still do not recognize the constitution," said Mr Ghia Tchamburashvili, chairman of the National Democratic Party, a historian and one of the Forum's most outspoken members.

Centrist groups such as the Popular Front of Georgia are encouraging the registration of new political parties and campaigning for the official elections, but the Forum is planning to organize its own election for a new alternative parliament, says Mr Tchamburashvili.

It is not clear how big the presidential council will be. The first 10 names were announced on Saturday, with another three yesterday. The usual Soviet practice of announcing appointments in strict order — either of seniority or alphabetical — was not observed, nor was it stated whether the list was complete. The confusion over the second list of names yesterday suggests unexpected difficulties.

## Missiles become museum display

From Susan Ellicott, Washington

In a symbol of the thaw in the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to display nuclear missiles at leading museums in their capitals.

The US is calling it a good-natured nuclear exchange. But the latest superpower missiles deal also boasts a detail worthy of the best spy novels — high-level negotiations began one morning at the Pentagon swimming pool.

In a show of consummate Washington-style diplomacy, the deputy director of the Air and Space Museum approached the then Secretary of Defence, Mr Frank Carlucci, at the pool and made a request

## Kremlin top jobs for old guard

From Mary Dejevsky  
Moscow

President Gorbachov yesterday laid himself open to criticism from Soviet reformers when he named two known conservatives to join his personal presidential council or Cabinet.

Over the weekend 13 people were appointed to the new council, intended to have the chief policy-making role in the presidential structure.

While the majority of council members belong to the Communist Party's leading bodies, there are also representatives from many walks of Soviet life, including writers, academics, economists and a workers' representative.

The presidential council is one of two new bodies established in connection with Mr Gorbachov's new post of executive President.

The other is the council — or soviet — of the federation, which will comprise leaders of the Soviet Union's 15 (14 without Lithuania) republics.

The presidential council includes six members of the Politburo: the Central Committee secretary responsible for foreign affairs, Mr Aleksandr Yakovlev, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze (both regarded as reformers); the head of the KGB, Mr Vladimir Kryuchkov, the Interior Minister, Mr Vadim Bakatin, and the Secretary for Economic Affairs, Mr Yuri Maslyukov (all regarded as centrists); and the Defence Minister, General Dmitri Yazov (regarded as a conservative).

Also from the party apparatus come Mr Valery Boldin, head of the party Central Committee's general department. The original announcement also named Mr Grigory Revenko, party first secretary in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, and Mr Yevgeni Primakov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet's council of the union (considered on the conservative wing of the party). These two names were dropped without explanation from a later Tass report.

The other members are the writers Chingiz Aitmatov (a Kirghiz by nationality) and Valentin Raspoutine (a self-proclaimed Russian nationalist), and academics Mr Stanislav Shatalin, a reforming economist, and Mr Yuri Osipyan, a theoretical physicist who is deputy director of the Academy of Sciences.

There are also two members of the Congress of People's Deputies — the Estonian agriculture specialist, Mr Albert Kaus, and Mr Veniamin Yarin, head of an organization called the United Front of Workers, which was set up last year to counter the influence of unofficial trade unions. Mr Yarin is considered to be a conservative.

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## Rocard to boost UK link

From Susan MacDonald  
Paris

M Michel Rocard, the French Prime Minister, arrived in Britain today for talks and a working lunch with Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The visit has been billed in certain French circles as President Mitterrand's attempt to persuade Mrs Thatcher to agree to speeding up European Community integration — and in particular European Monetary Union — as the only way to prevent German reunification swamping community affairs.

Although the pace of European integration will be on the agenda, so will European security and defence.

As the heads of the two European nuclear powers of Europe, M Rocard and Mrs Thatcher will have a lot to talk about at a time when French defence specialists are querying truths they held to be inviolable a few months ago.

The French wish to draw closer to Britain after the upset to the balance of the Franco-German relationship. But it is known that London sees Anglo-French co-operation in a wider context than just concern over German unification and believes that European integration has a momentum which should not be forced.

The West German leader arrives on Thursday to attend the annual Anglo-German Konigsberg conference at



Herr Kohl: Seems to accept reunification may take time.

## Kohl aims to heal German unity rift with Thatcher

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Disagreement between Bonn and London over the pace of German reunification is expected to be formally resolved this week when Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, flies to Britain for a summit with the Prime Minister.

Had the meeting taken place a few weeks ago, there would have been a serious risk of open conflict between the two leaders over reunification and its implications for European security. But now there is a more conciliatory mood. Mrs Thatcher believes Bonn has come round to her way of thinking that reunification will take longer than previously stated and that important security and economic issues have to be dealt with first before the Germans can reunite.

Herr Kohl, while continuing to take the lead in promoting reunification, has recently accepted that it is likely to be an extended process.

The West German leader arrives on Thursday to attend the annual Anglo-German Konigsberg conference at

many, the effect on Nato of German reunification and the Polish border issue, could have been foreseen, she said, "yet no one was trying to tackle them". She went on: "So I was nattering and nagging away and, yes, I did start to get those problems tackled."

Mrs Thatcher ruled out the possibility of Britain increasing its contributions to the European Community to help pay for German reunification. She said: "Had I been in the queue with other nations, we should not have admitted East Germany to the EC because it does not fulfil the basic conditions. It does not have a full democracy or a market economy."

Downing Street officials said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher wanted a united Germany but the process of reunification had to be carried out "in an orderly manner".

Mrs Thatcher sent personal congratulations to Herr Kohl after the results of the East German elections which demonstrated a clear vote in favour of reunification and of the Chancellor's political tactics.

Once the US Army agreed to swap one SS20 for one of its own Pershing 2 missiles, the staff of the museum negotiated with the Soviet Union to swap one SS20 for one of its own weapons.

The Washington museum, one of the city's biggest tourist attractions, will add the Pershing 2 and the Soviet SS20 missiles to its collection of space and aviation exhibits by the time President Gorbachov visits the US in June for a summit with President Bush. The missiles, which will stand next to the wooden aircraft used by the Wright Brothers for their first flight, are being withdrawn from US troops, they are covered by the INF treaty. The National Air and

Space Museum acknowledged that the decision to exhibit nuclear weapons among its icons of space and aviation history was "a bit of a departure" from its usual philosophy.

The museum, which is part of the Smithsonian Institution, houses a wealth of material associated with the space age, including the space suit of the first astronaut to walk on the Moon.

Despite the new spirit of co-operation, however, each side has noted at least one important piece of information — the exact longitude and latitude of the other's museum.

According to some first-hand reports, the Albanian police — whose reluctance to wade in against their compatriots is increasingly evident — are now taking a big stride towards the precipice," concluded one local journalist.

As for the deeply apprehensive Serbian community, living mostly in isolated and vulnerable villages, the only course now is to demand more force from their revered strongman in Belgrade, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the Prime Minister. At the weekend, amid claims that the poisoning scare had been a provocation by Albanian extremists, "Slob" took control of

internal security in Kosovo, removing Albanian police officers from any direct involvement in the front line.

According to some first-hand reports, the Albanian police — whose reluctance to wade in against their compatriots is increasingly evident — are now taking a big stride towards the precipice," concluded one local journalist.

Another theory is that Mr Azem Vlasi, the former leader of the province's Communist Party, who is on trial for "counter-revolutionary acts" since last October, might soon be convicted and severely punished. That would certainly result in mass demonstrations with further bloodshed virtually unavoidable.

Now that the federal army has returned in force to the main trouble spots, both sides may again draw back from the brink of outright civil war. But with hatred feeding daily on the mutual exchange of threats, it is becoming harder to find Albanians or Serbs who believe there is any hope of a peaceful settlement.

## Thirst for revenge pushes Kosovo towards the abyss

Kremlin  
top job  
for old  
guard

## Hungary revels in rites of freedom on election day

From Michael Biyav, Budapest

Some seven millions Hungarians voted yesterday in an election that is widely seen as a crucial test for the emerging East European democracies.

After a brisk start, voting continued steadily and the turnout was expected to be high. Almost 30 different parties took part, and the final result will not be known until today at the earliest.

In many of the 176 constituencies the result is expected to be inconclusive, as a winning candidate had to obtain more than 50 per cent of the vote. A run-off second round will be held on April 8 where no clear winner has emerged.

Leaders of the main anti-communist opposition parties were confident. The final opinion poll gave the centre-right Hungarian Democratic Forum a slight national lead at around 21 per cent of the lead, closely followed by the Alliance of Free Democrats, which was expected to emerge as the strongest party in Budapest. The rural-based Smallholders Party was running strongly in the countryside, and the Socialist Party - the reformed communists - were expected to gain around

10 per cent. The polls predicted a crushing defeat for the hardline communist rump, renamed the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party.

The election was held in the shadow of the clashes between Romanians and Hungarians in Transylvania, which have aroused strong emotions here. All the 12 main parties fielding nationalists strongly condemn the violence, and agreed not to exploit the issue.

But in its final broadcasts the Hungarian Democratic Forum said: "Those who are Hungarians are with us." They also emphasized that they were the first party to champion the rights of Hungarian minorities abroad.

The historical quarrel with Romania was also raised by Mr Vince Voros, the president of the Smallholders party, who questions the legitimacy of the 1920 Treaty of Trianon, the settlement imposed on Hungary after the First World War, which stripped the country of Transylvania and other border areas.

The League of Young Democrats, in their broadcast, emphasized the break with communism, waving a red

star and singing: "Farewell to the old system, we will be fine without you."

Mr Walter Mondale, the former US Vice-President, headed a team of international observers monitoring the poll.

All the main parties will give their assessments of the results today. And those in the lead are expected to begin discreet contacts over the formation of a coalition government. All parties have admitted they cannot govern alone, but many have already ruled out any coalition with the former communists.

In Budapest, thousands of voters streamed out to polling stations almost as soon as they opened at 6 am, the elderly in their Sunday best, young couples pushing prams, students, workers, civil servants and bureaucrats. In border villages where the ethnic mosaic is witness to Hungary's turbulent history, people made their way through the warm fields, clustering into schools and farm halls, Hungarians, Germans, Croats and Bosnians, often in national costume.

"It is a great day for the Socialist Party, for the country and for democracy," said Mr



Democratic dawn: Traditionally dressed peasant women queuing up beside decorated ballot boxes in the northern Hungarian village of Bujak to vote early.

Gyula Horn, the popular Foreign Minister, as he voted in Budapest. On Saturday, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, paid a flying visit to bestow on him a medal and Germany's thanks for opening the borders last year to East Germans seeking freedom.

An hour later, at a polling

station near by, Mr Gaspar Miklos Tamas, the dissident philosopher and leading spokesman for the Free Democrats, said: "This country can show that we can make change in a civilized, peaceful and quiet manner, with not a drop of blood shed. This in itself is a triumph."

As he spoke, an elderly blind widow, was steered gently out of the booth by one of the scrutineers. "I feel happy. This is a good day for our country," she said.

In the smart centre of Pest, the western half of the capital, where Adidas, Pierre Cardin and other symbols of Western elegance mingle with ancient universities and dusty min-

istries, Mr Geza Nagy, aged 21, a law student, expressed his hopes before voting for the first time. "I hope we become richer and more democratic, that we have a chance to show our real face to the world."

Everyone seemed happy to see the end of the old system.

"But we are not certain what will come next," a young couple said.

Leading article, page 13

## Workers vote to break chains of communist past

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

The workers went to vote yesterday in Budapest's district 9, a shabby enclave of small one-storey houses on the main road to the airport. Through the city streets and past crumbling buildings, still pock-marked with bullet holes from the 1956 uprising, the elderly lumbered towards the polling stations on the arms of their grandchildren.

Clad in tracksuits and worn jackets, they strolled past early-morning drunks at the corner beer bars to cast their ballots on the day the discredited dictatorship of the proletariat breathed its last.

"To have a choice - this is how it should be," said Mrs Erzebet Rovsa, as she walked away from the school after voting freely for the first time in 45 years. She has lived in the district for 50 years, and marked her ballot for the Patriotic Election Coalition, an amalgam of small social organizations active in the district to help the poor, elderly and infirm, who live a hand-to-mouth existence on small pensions and handouts.

They have been forgotten by the local communist authorities. "I told all my friends to go to vote because I want the communists to lose, and I am afraid that they are better organized than the opposition parties," she said.

Her efforts appeared to have worked. In the musty, yellowing classroom, a lengthy queue formed as dozens of people waited patiently to use the voting booth. They emerged without emotion to place their ballot slips in a sealed box.

Many did not understand the complicated voting procedure and the ballot form

which had both candidate names and parties. "People are asking a lot of questions and we have to take the time to explain everything," a volunteer worker said.

There is a subdued feeling outside in the nearly deserted street, and most walk away quickly. A prying foreign journalist is suspect and many turn their backs in disgust if asked how they voted. But one 75-year-old woman in a threadbare coat is willing to talk. "I voted for the League of Young Democrats," she whispers with pride. "You see, I have four grandchildren and the future belongs to them."

Supporters of the Alliance of Free Democrats were happy to disclose their choice. They described the radical party as more sympathetic to their interests, unlike the look-alike communist candidates of the old regime. New and affordable housing, secure jobs and good schools are some of their demands, all as yet unfulfilled by the old system.

However, there is still some interest in the Socialist Party, the reborn and reformed wing of the old communists. A toolmaker said: "We know them, they are professionals, and they were very modest in the campaign. I do not think the new parties are really interested in governing."

Fewer voted for the old-guard communists, now reconstituted in the Socialist Workers Party. "They have recognized their mistakes but have not lost their ideology," one of the faithful said. But on this day it appears that the majority in this working-class bastion, so disillusioned by the past, have opted for the ideology of change.

Many did not understand the complicated voting procedure and the ballot form

since taking office in November 1988.

Those moving into the limelight are:

Mr Janos Kis: A philosopher and leader of the Alliance of Free Democrats, a liberal-social democratic party founded by him and other dissidents. Mr Kis, aged 46, is not standing for a seat in parliament, but is one of three Alliance candidates for Prime Minister. The others are Mr Ivan Petro, aged 44, an economist, and a lawyer Mr Peter Tolgyessy, aged 34.

Mr Jozsef Antall: The director of the Semmelweis Museum of Medical History, is a likely Prime Minister as president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

Mr Viktor Orban: The leader of the Federation of Young Democrats.

Expected to return to the political stage are:

Mr Vince Voros: President of the independent Smallholders' Party. Aged 79, an MP from 1945-48, he may well prove a power broker in coalition talks after the elections.

Mr Bela Kiraly: Leader of the rebel national guard when Soviet tanks crushed the 1956 Hungarian uprising. Mr Kiraly, aged 77, returned to Hungary from the United States as a hero last June for the first time in 33 years. He seems certain to enter parliament as an independent.

Gallery of new and fading stars

Budapest (Reuters) - Hungary's voters will send to parliament a gallery of leaders of political hues banned under more than four decades of monopoly Communist rule.

Those virtually certain to depart from leading posts are:

Mr Imre Pozsgay: He spearheaded the destruction of his own Communist Party and its replacement last October by the ruling Socialist Party, dedicated to multi-party politics.

Mr Pozsgay, aged 56, is philosophical about his imminent removal from the post of state minister, but says his career is less important than what he has achieved "and that is democracy".

Mr Miklos Nemeth: The Prime Minister, aged 42, has pushed a mass of reform legislation through parliament

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# Nixon bares his soul in memoirs of Watergate affair

From Peter Stothard  
US Editor, Washington

Sixteen years after resigning the presidency of the US, Mr Richard Nixon has re-entered the debate about Watergate, describing the affair which brought him down as "one part wrongdoing, one part blundering, and one part political vendetta by my enemies".

In emotional memoirs to be published next month, the former President describes how, after leaving the White House in August 1974, he became a virtual "vegetable" with neither a cause to fight for nor a reason to live. In charting his subsequent political rehabilitation to elder statesman and White House confidant, Mr Nixon returns to the attack against what he calls the "myths" surrounding the 20th century's most famous break-in.

Echoing the language that has marked 44 years in politics, he

attacks the "blatant double-standards" and "baseless charges" of the liberal establishment which he believes brought him down.

Among the most flagrant falsehoods, he says, are the myths that he ordered the attempt to bug the Democratic National Committee rooms on June 17, 1972, that the CIA obstructed the subsequent FBI inquiry on White House orders, and that he paid the Watergate burglars to keep silent about their motives.

The Nixon version is that he erred in not establishing "a moral tone" which would have prevented "illegal" activities which were "not unusual in political campaigns". The CIA, he points out, ignored his request to intervene in the FBI investigation. He did not pay the burglars, he writes; he only considered paying them.

Not surprisingly the early verdict in Washington was that

book, whose highlights are to be featured in *Time* magazine this week, is a "tilting at windmills". "It sheds more light on the remarkable new confidence of its writer than on the crimes of his time in office," commented one veteran observer. "Nixon still does not answer the real charges."

One of the former President's still controversial arguments is that the tactics of the 1972 Democratic campaign were being set by the candidate, Mr George McGovern, and not by the national party office; that, therefore, whoever ordered the "pathetic target" of the break-in "knew little about politics"; that, therefore, he could not be Richard Milhouse Nixon.

In his recent biography of Mr Nixon, Mr Stephen Ambrose, the historian, develops at least one of the reasons why the choice of target would have been attractive

to the President. It might, he says, have provided information on the secret funds being given to the Democrats by Howard Hughes, the billionaire who was also a generous contributor to the White House and possessor of many unsavoury Nixon secrets.

Such detail is now, however, mainly of interest to professional "Watergatemen". The most disgraced President of modern times has already become a respected source of wisdom on foreign affairs, particularly on the Soviet Union and China. He seems to think that the time is ripe for his full rehabilitation.

New facts are not necessary to win public redemption and may even impede the process. Baring the soul is what brings the converts. First, in the trauma after his resignation, the former President reveals that he considered refusing President Ford's pardon.

Only mental and physical collapse, imminent bankruptcy and the impossibility of "the epitome of evil itself" getting a fair trial, made the acceptance inevitable.

Later, he describes how he almost died of blood clots brought about by his mental state. He and his wife, who "seldom revealed our physical disabilities to each other", broke the habit of personal secrecy as he told her, after four transfusions, that he "didn't think he was going to make it".

Mrs Nixon suffered a stroke after the resignation. The immediate responsibility for this is laid on Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the reporters whose revelations about Watergate punctuated the long presidential decline.

"One day a well-meaning member of our staff sent her a particularly vicious book written by two *Washington Post* staff members," he writes. "It was the

last thing she read before tragedy struck." Mrs Nixon survived and rebuilt a withered arm on an exercise wheel.

He saved his own life, he says, by golf. But physical recovery was not enough ("a healthy vegetable is still a vegetable") and he plunged into his memoirs, seeking the "therapy needed for a full spiritual recovery".

He also needed the money. He describes the cost of defending himself from legal actions relating to his presidency as a "staggering \$1.8 million (£1.2 million)".

He is scornful of overpaid "lobbyists and PR flacks who rip off their employers so shamefully". He writes proudly how no one in the Nixon Administration profited from Watergate, in contrast with previous scandals with which it was often compared, Teapot Dome and the Grant Whisky frauds.

The once famous White

House Press Secretary, Mr Ron Ziegler, first described Watergate as "a third-rate burglary" — "aptly", as its central figure writes even now.

Mr Nixon wants the affair to be seen as a "tragedy of errors" in which the biggest tragedy is the way it has overshadowed every achievement of his presidency, in the Middle East, in arms reductions, and in relations with the communist world.

He seems happy to spread irritation among those who still hold him in contempt if he can win greater admiration among those who share his own view of himself. He quotes a line of Sophocles that "one must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been".

"There is till some time before the sun goes down," he writes, "but the day has indeed been splendid."

## ANC's hard man heading for home

From Fred Bridgland  
Johannesburg

Mr Chris Hani, chief of staff of Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the military wing of the African National Congress, was scheduled to arrive here last night for "talks about talks" on a new constitutional future for South Africa.

ANC sources were being almost as coy about Mr Hani's arrival as they had been when, as the hard man of the organization, he used to slip into the country clandestinely to organize bombings which had killed blacks and whites.

But the South African Press Association, quoting a senior ANC source, said Mr Hani, aged 47, and a number of other top ANC officials who have been in exile for years, would fly from Lusaka, Zambia, to begin talks with the government delegation led by President de Klerk. The ANC delegation will be led by Mr Nelson Mandela, its vice-president.

Mr Hani, whose early ambition was to be a Roman Catholic priest and who has been known to recite Shakespeare to foreign correspondents, combines idealism with ruthlessness.

Explaining the philosophy behind Umkonto's bombings, he said less than two years ago: "Our intention is to make them (white South Africans) see. When they are maimed and they are in hospital others will visit them and say: this is the price of apartheid."

Asked about the toll of the bombing campaigns on blacks, Mr Hani replied: "A few blacks were maimed in a land mine blast in Eastern Transvaal. Their response was I am sorry I lost a leg, but I know the action was not intended for me."

Mr Hani is a graduate in Latin and English from Fort Hare University and the predominantly white Rhodes University in Grahamstown. He joined Umkonto in 1962, fled into exile in 1963 and received military training in Tiamanen Square.

Small-scale acts of defiance continue. Journalists spotting an anti-Li Peng poster pasted on to a tree say plainclothes police appeared within minutes and held up sheets of newspaper to conceal the poster from the curious eyes of bystanders.

At the continuing session of parliament there has been no such defiance. But cracks have appeared in the media, with some newspapers making mild but significant criticisms of the Government.

Mr Hani's reputation as a tough leader was enhanced in 1984 when he helped put down a mutiny in a notorious ANC re-education camp in Angola.

Mr Hani succeeded Mr Joe Slovo, the South African Communist Party leader, as Umkonto chief of staff in 1987. His name is mentioned in the same breath as Mr Thabo Mbeki, aged 47, the ANC's foreign secretary, as a possible future ANC leader.

He is expected to be accompanied by four senior ANC members, Mr Aziz Pahad, Mr Reg September, Miss Phyllis Naidoo and Mr Penwell Maduna, who have been in exile for many years.

Mr Jacob Zuma, Umkonto's intelligence chief, arrived in South Africa on Friday and immediately began talks with the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, which is responsible for arranging the "great debates" (meeting) on South Africa's future.

Johannesburg's *Sunday Times* reported yesterday that the Government will propose joint committees of government and ANC representatives to deal with proportional representation, a Bill of Rights, the economy and the judiciary.



Mr Hani: Seen as a possible future leader of the ANC.

## Hawke set to keep power after election cliff-hanger

From Christopher Thomas, Canberra

Australia's governing Labor Party is likely to be returned to power with a razor-thin majority after one of the closest general election battles on record.

It may be another day or two before Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, knows whether he will be able to form the next administration. A hung parliament is an outside possibility.

But he said emphatically as he returned to his official Canberra residence last night: "We have won." Even so, he could hardly claim to have won a mandate from an electorate that plainly wanted a change but did not trust the alternatives.

All eyes will be focused today on the marginal Queensland seat of Kennedy, where voting will resume after being postponed in four polling stations because of floods. If it fails to Labor, Mr Hawke ought to be able to stay in power. If the opposition Liberals take it, the chances of a hung parliament will increase, with one or two Independents possibly holding the balance of power.

Electon night on Saturday produced bizarre scenes as counting went on in Canberra. At one point both Mr Hawke and Mr Andrew Peacock, the Liberal leader, declared that they were winning. The trend swung to and fro, confounding pundits and leaving even computers unable to say which way it was going.

By yesterday morning Mr Peacock had lost his confidence, saying he thought a hung parliament was distinctly possible and also acknowledging that Labor might get back with a small majority.

Results declared so far gave 73 seats in the 148-member House of Representatives to Labor, 64 to the Liberal-National Party coalition, and one to an independent contender, Mr Ted Mack, who could end up as the tie-breaker in a hung parliament.

Mr Mack, who took the constituency of North Sydney:

from the Liberals, is the first independent elected to the House for more than 40 years. A second independent contender, Mrs Helen Caldicott, an anti-nuclear campaigner, also stands a good chance of getting elected.

The result remains to be declared in 10 constituencies, with the Liberals expected to win several, narrowing the gap with Labor.

The election produced a record 11 per cent vote for the small Australian Democrats, but still they did not manage to capture a single seat. Mrs Janine Haines, the party leader, who gave up a Senate seat to fight for the House of Representatives, was defeated by a Labor candidate. She immediately announced that she would leave politics. The party will have a caretaker leader until a permanent head is selected.

Mr Charles Blunt, head of the National Party, faces possible defeat when the result of a neck-and-neck battle with Mrs Caldicott is declared after the distribution of preference votes from the defeated Democrats.

Labor took a mauling in Victoria, losing eight and possibly nine seats to the Liberals — a result that reflected the unpopularity of the Labor-run state government. Labor also did badly in Western Australia, again reflecting dislike of the state administration.

Mr Peacock said last night that he would be Prime Minister if the National Party, whose support collapsed in Queensland and northern New South Wales, had fared better. "We took 13 seats from the Labor Party. With a couple of more seats from the National Party we would have been in," he declared.

Overall the result amounted to a rebuff to both main parties. Privately senior Labor Party officials were expressing some astonishment that the electorate had not soundly rejected the Government over the state of the economy and high mortgage rates.



## Maverick may hold final key

From Robert Cockburn, Sydney

Australia's closest federal election in 30 years could see the balance of power rest with a first-time independent candidate, Mr Ted Mack, who lives in his North Sydney constituency — on Neutral Street.

Mr Mack, the only independent in 26 years to win a seat in the House of Representatives, was celebrating at home on Saturday night. As the prospect of a hung parliament emerged, television's political pundits named him as the man most likely to hold the deciding vote.

There were wild cheers. But who, the pundits wanted to know, was this newcomer who may end up defining the corporate and trade union influences that dominate the

two main parties? Within minutes, an outside broadcast van was setting up a satellite dish on Neutral Street.

Mr Mack was soon airing his views to the nation on the inquiry of the two-party system. He captured the electorate's often-voiced disillusion with the main parties, pointing to the trouncing he gave the Liberals in what was considered one of their safest seats since its creation in 1949.

Mr Mack, a mild-mannered architect aged 54, beat Mr John Spender, QC, a Liberal MP, described as an "absent landlord" with a swing of 23 percent. As a former mayor of North Sydney, Mr Mack is highly popular for fighting local grievances, notably against rampant commercial

developments encouraged by the state.

In his study, he explained what he believes Australians now want from government.

"In Australia we've probably had the world's most rigid two-party system for the last 70 years," he said. "People are realizing it is not working and it excludes the general public with its big union, big media and big commercial interests. For the first time in Australian history, 30 per cent of the electorate has voted against the main parties."

North Sydney, portrayed by the media as Australia's most educated and politically knowledgeable constituency, has provided a "future shock" he said.

"There's been a major pol-

itical shift in the last 10 years, which has happened all over the world," he said. "It's been slower here, of course, but the same factors are at work — the ethics of participation, where people demand the right to be involved in decisions that affect them. It really doesn't matter if it's East Germany, South Africa or Australia."

A "classic non-jumper", he has no affiliations with political parties or trade unions and refuses to do deals with Labor or the Liberals while this election remains undecided. If it comes to the crunch, his views would support tax levels to invest more in education, health and public services, and he would give rebates to people who did not run cars.

Asked about the approach of a series of sensitive anniversaries culminating in June 4, security remains tight in Peking. Yesterday afternoon about 200 soldiers, some in full combat gear, were doing riot and drill training opposite Tiananmen Square.

Small-scale acts of defiance continue. Journalists spotting an anti-Li Peng poster pasted on to a tree say plainclothes police appeared within minutes and held up sheets of newspaper to conceal the poster from the curious eyes of bystanders.

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## 34 killed as storms hit Bangladesh

Dhaka (AP) — Two days of storms pounding most parts of Bangladesh have left at least 34 people dead, 800 injured and thousands homeless.

Homes were blown away and rice crops were uprooted in storms that began on Friday night and continued yesterday, police said.

### Kashmir death

Srinagar (Reuter) — Mir Ghulam Mustafa, a Kashmiri politician who had been kidnapped, was found dead and Muslim militants said they had hanged him.

### Hijacker held

Valence (AFP) — French police arrested a man with a knife who hijacked a bus near Lyons and forced the passengers out.

### Poll shooting

Harare (AFP) — Mr Patrick Komboya, a senior official of the opposition Zimbabwe Unity Movement, underwent surgery after being shot in violence ahead of Zimbabwe's general elections this week.

### Mosque blast

Nicosia (Reuter) — A detonator exploded outside a mosque here, causing slight damage but no injuries.

### Planes crash

Bogota (AFP) — Fourteen people died in three separate crashes of light aircraft.

## Paradise prepares for doomsday

From Martin Fletcher, Livingston, Montana

There is even a separate bunker for livestock — a latter-day Noah's Ark.

No matter that the Cold War is over. The people are religious extremists, members of the Church Universal and Triumphant, the latest in a long line of apocalyptic movements in America.

They believe the day of reckoning is coming. They have adopted the virulent anti-communism of their leader, Elizabeth Clare Prophet, whom they call "Mother" or "Guru Ma".

They have absorbed her belief that *prestochangeo* and *glasnost* are Soviet tricks to dupe the West into lowering its guard. When Mother warned last month that March and April were a time of particular danger in world affairs, with the danger peaking on April 23, they knew exactly what she meant.

Farther up the hill Michael and Jeannie Campbell live with their six-year-old and four-year-old daughters in the \$40,000 "convertible" one-family shelter. The front living

# TIMES DIARY

## SHERIDAN MORLEY

**W**ith a healthy sense of priorities, Neil Kinnock was to be found late last Thursday not crouched over a television awaiting the Mid-Staffordshire result, but joining our leading dramatists and actors at Barbican party for Vaclav Havel, the new president of Czechoslovakia. In his speech, Havel suggested to his fellow RSC dramatists that they too should aim for such a position — if only to ensure their plays were staged exactly as written.

As Terry Hands explained, the RSC's links with Havel go back to a production of *Tempest* in 1987, and Barry Kyle will continue the association with a production of *King Lear* for the Czech National Theatre



Havel: words of advice

soon. But it is a non-RSC director, Sam Walters of the minuscule but courageous Orange Tree pub theatre in Richmond, who has remained most faithful to Havel over the years. Having staged six of his plays in the past decade (a seventh, suitably entitled *Redevelopment*, is due there in the autumn), Walters travelled to Prague in November to talk about a new one: "I went expecting to meet, with some difficulty, a dissident dramatist, but the revolution happened while I was en route, and by the time I got there my playwright was on a balcony addressing half a million people and changing the world. All I'd really gone for were some minor changes in the last act."

• An early rave for Peter Flannery's *Singer*, a remarkable tragic-comedy about revenge and survival in the 40 years of post-war Britain. Leaving a preview in the Barbican Pit, Peter Palumbo, Arts Council chairman, was heard to say: "This play alone makes the case for subsidy."

**L**et us consider, briefly, what the late Walt Disney has to offer the late William Shakespeare. Within a small area south of Southwark Bridge we have no fewer than three rival excavations. There is Lord Hanson in more-or-less proud possession of the original Globe site; there is the Rose revived; and there is Sam Wanamaker, who, at considerable financial and career cost, has spent 20 years trying to bring Shakespeare back to life in its original, or near-original, setting.

The danger is that the three projects will degenerate into bickering on separate committees, if not into internecine warfare. What we need, adapted from old Walt in Florida and California, is Shakespeareland — an upmarket intellectual and academic artistic Disneyland where tourists and



Wanamaker and life-long inspiration

scholars alike can spend a day and/or night surrounded by Shakespearean theatres, museums and perhaps even a 16th-century-style restaurant. Ideally, Wanamaker should be asked to preside over a scheme which would unite the individual sites under one organization while allowing each to preserve its original intentions.

**L**ittle more than a month after the fire that destroyed the interior of the Savoy Theatre, enough smoke has cleared for its manager, Julian Courtenay, to estimate the extent of the rebuilding problems. Several million pounds will be required to restore the theatre to its art-deco glory — the money, fortunately, will be provided by the insurance company — and the task will take at least a year. Some of the principal losses were the proscenium panels created in 1929 by Basil Ionides when the 1881 structure was rebuilt. There are photographs of these and considerable documentation, but nothing that reveals the details in adequate close-up.

Forensic experts are still baffled by the cause of the fire. "What also appears to mystify them," says Courtenay, "is exactly how Paul Daniels achieved his levitation act during his last season here."

**A** new story — well, new to me — about Maurice Barrymore, father of Lionel, Ethel and John and himself an actor of considerable distinction. At his funeral, the supporting straps of the coffin became entangled as it was being lowered into the grave and it had to be raised to the surface again. "Typical of father," said Lionel, "another blasted curtain-call."

What a smashing place Torquay is! The sun shines out over the bay, the mayor kisses you, and the Imperial Hotel lends you an Italian silk tie (if you have left your own at home) that looks far more expensive than anything you own yourself.

"And Torquay's changed," the lady taxi-driver confided. "I shouldn't say this, but I will: you couldn't get green peppers here five years ago."

The Imperial was splendid. You would not, of course, expect the National Caravan Council, which I had come to address, to hold its conference in — no, let me not be churlish to my pleasant hosts. We could not have fitted into a caravan, anyway.

Green peppers are not the only novelty to have hit the town. Mounting the rostrum, glancing nervously at the massed ranks of the cream of the caravaning

**A**s he climbed into the pulpit at St Paul's to preach his famous Falklands sermon in 1982, for an instant the light caught the Archbishop of Canterbury's Military Cross, discreetly pinned that day to his cassock. It was a sudden and unexpected reminder that here was a brave man who once saved a fellow soldier on the battlefield at the risk of his own life, who once took a tank into an open field under close, intensive fire from German guns.

It is a sterling characteristic of Robert Alexander Kennedy Runcie, MC, that he does not lack courage — when he knows what he has to do. But even to this day he has hardly made up his mind about the wisdom and righteousness of the Falklands campaign. Then and since, he has neither defended it nor attacked it; he is by temperament and principle neither a pacifist nor a nationalist.

But he did not shrink from delivering the sermon his conscience felt was right at the Falklands service, in which he called for prayers for both British and Argentine casualties and their families. Quite calmly, and without regard for the consequences for himself, he told the congrega-

tion, which included royalty, politicians and servicemen, that "war springs from the love and loyalty which should be offered to God before being applied to some God substitute, one of the most dangerous being nationalism..."

It was he, above all, who had insisted beforehand that the service should be a service of reconciliation and not a jingoistic "thanksgiving for victory", and he also knew, because they had told him so, that neither the Roman Catholics nor the Free churches would agree to take part in the service, and that the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's would revolt, if it were allowed to become a celebration of British military triumph.

From that moment on, the more blimpish parts of the Tory party and press had him marked in their sights as an enemy, a softy and a wet; and in the long run some of the mud stuck to him, as mud does. It is, however, merely a myth circulated by her courtiers that the Prime Minister

was angry with him. In fact she congratulated him on his sermon that day.

Since then Dr Runcie has said that he puzzled by the common press perception of a state of war between himself and Mrs Thatcher, which has never corresponded to the way she actually treated him personally. Nevertheless they are, temperamentally, poles apart. It has never seemed to him that there was very much wrong with the post-war British welfare state consensus, and the more dramatic moments of its breaking up, such as the miners' strike in 1984, pained him greatly.

There is in his make-up a streak of indecisiveness which has sometimes been mistaken for lack of courage. Successive visitors of opposing views, meeting him in his study in Lambeth Palace for a reassuring word, are likely to come away glowing with the warmth of their welcome, convinced he is on their side. Probably, at the moment he was

speaking to them, he was. But while this tendency to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds has made him personally popular in the church and a good pastor of souls — he is a warmly affectionate man — it has been at the expense of clear leadership. Too much sensitivity to all the pros and cons of every argument is an asset in a theology lecturer (which he once was), but does not make for firmness of purpose in a Primate of All England. For that, one has to be prepared not only to win friends, but also to lose them.

He has sometimes been reluctant to seize the initiative, therefore, or once having seized it, he has let it slip again. Dr Runcie tends to want conflicting and irreconcilable things for the Church of England, and for the Anglican Communion whose worldwide leader he also is: women priests and full communion with Rome, for instance; a united church in which everyone of whatever persuasion feels at

home; a close relationship with the nation and a distance from the government the nation has elected.

Mostly this brings an unfair impression of weakness, but it brings him one great strength — very many ordinary Anglicans share this optimistic or confused vision, and so their leader is just like them. Had he chosen a different career, a country solicitor, perhaps, or breeder of prize pigs, he would have been a mainstay of the local church: churchwarden, school trustee, deacon synod member, one of the nicest men in the diocese whom everyone liked and trusted.

There is a Mr Anglican Everyman quality to the present Archbishop of Canterbury, which perhaps explains the unkind comment sometimes heard that too many of his fellow bishops are "Runcie clones".

In truth, they are just typical Anglicans like him. The most notorious of the grievances aired by the late Dr Gareth Bennett in

## Clifford Longley on Dr Runcie's outstanding achievement

# The world is his cloister

his famous *Crockford* Preface was that the Archbishop had peopled the bench of bishops with his friends and familiars, almost as if kind of conspiracy. He had failed to notice that the whole preface process in the Church of England had become a smooth machine for moving men like Dr Runcie upwards.

All these apparent weaknesses have corresponding strengths, however, and Dr Runcie has never buried his talents in a field. If it is possible to hold the Church of England together by charm, goodwill, affection and tolerance, then he has succeeded.

Even more, the Anglican Communion — no insignificant world body, with 60 million members, and growing — is ideally suited to such a leadership style. It does not want a pope, and each of the 26 separate churches or "provinces" likes to create an Archbishop of Canterbury in its own image. He lent himself to that, deliberately and magnificently. It is a quite undefinable thing, an Anglican Communion: except that, for the moment, it can be defined by its enormous affection for its head man and that it will miss him. He has become, briefly, himself, its source of unity. That is no small achievement.

# Innocence in face of the evidence

**B**ernard Levin urges the judiciary to abandon its unquestioning assumption that police witnesses have no reason to bend the truth



be not only mistaken but criminal and corrupt. Repeatedly, they ask the jury in their summing-up in a case defended with the claim that the police have faked evidence, "Why would the officer do such a thing?" Almost anybody but a judge would be able to come up with the answer to that question.

Lord Lane presided over the Court of Appeal when the six men convicted of the Birmingham bombings had their convictions and sentences upheld; you have only to read the judges' words to see that there was insufficient evidence to make the convictions safe. Mr Paul Foot would no doubt argue that Lord Lane and his two colleagues had decided in advance that they would reject the appeals because they had been given enormous sums of money by the Bishop of London to do so, and in any case are in the habit of spending their weekends in a cellar torturing those noble heroes, the members of the IRA. I do not hold such views, but I

presume to say that the convictions were unsafe though three eminent judges were convinced that they were not.

Two paragraphs of the judgment speak for me. The first dismisses one of the defence's claims like this: "The court has not overlooked the fact that the confessions and statements do not tally with each other or scientific evidence, but the fact that they do not tally is no reason for thinking they were concocted by the police." The second dismisses a defence witness thus: "The judge pointed to three sets of statements, interviews or affidavits which... had... discrepancies in them... he... had contradicted himself... the conclusion about his story... was unavoidable that it was made up." Oh, my Lords, my Lords! On one hand, discrepancies are no reason for disbelief. On the other hand, they lead to an unavoidable conclusion that they are. The one hand belonged to the police; the other to an alleged criminal. Who shall con-

vince our judges that geese and ganders are both birds?

The contempt with which the Appeal judges regarded the defence witnesses springs from the page again and again:

...not worthy of belief... embittered man... make money and blacken the reputation of the police... unrealistic that the police would have attacked before hearing his story... regretted that the two prison officers had ever been called... neither was believed... this document cannot sensibly or seriously be a blueprint for people... nothing had entered which threw doubt on the scientific evidence... the longer the hearing has gone on, the more this court has been convinced the jury was correct.

**B**ut I have two more passages to quote from the proceedings, and they may make even Lord Lane pause. "It was highly unlikely West Midlands police would have been allowed to carry out a concerted and speedy attack in a strange police station", and "We have no doubt the evidence given to us... that... the West Midlands police treated these appellants with brutality was false".

A year and a half later, the West Midlands Serious Crime Squad was disbanded in its entirety, for good, and now notorious, reason. If the Appeal Court judges had known the reason at the time of the appeal, would they have delivered the same judgment, oozing as it does frail certainties, unshakable snap impressions, questionable *ipse dixit*, an irate and pervasive sense of their time was wasted, and a robust defence of the West Midlands force?

For answer, I return to the case with which I began today. Lord Lane found it "almost incredible". It is the mercy of God that the prosecution had thrown in its hand before the court assembled, for if His Lordship had found it *entirely* incredible, an innocent man would have stayed in prison for 17 years. No sensible person thinks that all police forces in this country are corrupt; no sensible person thinks most of them are. But all sensible people think some of them are, not least the vile creatures who tried to destroy their fellow-policeman, Mr Corley.

Our judges are honest; very few indeed are stupid. But an appalling number have forgotten, if they ever knew, what the real world is like. Lord Lane's revealing incredulity typifies the attitude. It behoves him and the two other Appeal Court judges who sat with him on the Birmingham case, knowing what they do now, to question themselves pointedly as to whether they have, in all honesty and uprightness, presided over a terrible miscarriage of justice.

At the very least, let them murmur Cromwell's words: "I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken."

case theirs was suppressed. However, it soon became obvious that the route the column was taking that the city was not being occupied. When the column had gone by, one of the deputies said: "What did I tell you — bluff!"

Most of the Moscow correspondents who have arrived in Vilnius in recent days seem to think that President Gorbachev would not dare risk the international hostility that would result from a military crackdown; economic and political conditions in the Soviet Union simply do not allow it.

There remains the possibility, which the Lithuanian leadership takes very seriously, that with or without orders from Moscow, actions by émigré Russian and Polish members of the Lithuanian Communist Party, or the army's seizure of deserters, this building will be an obvious target.

The 26 youths there are calm and brave in the face of the possibility of arrest and a long term in a military prison, though their attitude may be due in part to what appears to be an exaggerated belief in the effectiveness of international moral outrage.

For the past two nights, I have bedded down on a sofa in the Supreme Council building, the most obvious target of a full-scale military takeover. For all of us, the strain and lack of sleep are having an effect. Several have begun to see things — tanks, mostly. Some, unfortunately, have reported these hallucinations to the world.

While journalists and local politicians are in a state of high excitement, the people are remarkably calm. If this really is a war of nerves, the public mood in Vilnius suggests that Moscow is losing it hands down.

**T**he officer corps has been used to regarding itself as an élite in Soviet society, untouched by the sordid aspects of Communist party rule. Its members now face not only the possible disintegration of the Soviet Union but an even more immediate blow to their own jobs, prestige and living standards. As the army is cut back, many will be unemployed. For those who stay in the army, especially among those of military age, the generals can only fear that the army will disintegrate.

These serving officers have close links with the retired officers who have settled in large numbers in the Baltic republics, and who make up a large part of the leadership of the Soviet loyalist movement there. Given the pressure on the army, rational arguments about a peaceful transformation of the Soviet Union — which in any case looks extremely unlikely — and about the consequences of military action in Lithuania may not apply.

Moreover, these officers may find backing among the local Russian population. These people not only have an imperial outlook but most are ordinary workers, at the bottom of the social barrel, and resent "bourgeois intellectuals" such as Professor Landsbergis. The sullen anger of these poorly dressed, hard-faced men recalls the images of the Russian peasantry as the "dark people" in 19th century Russian literature — a people known for their unpredictable revolt against those seen as their oppressors.

For these reasons, I think that I will stay for a while longer on the sofa of the Supreme Council. Just in case.

These serving officers have close links with the retired officers who have settled in large numbers in the Baltic republics, and who make up a large part of the leadership of the Soviet loyalist movement there. Given the pressure on the army, rational arguments about a peaceful transformation of the Soviet Union — which in any case looks extremely unlikely — and about the consequences of military action in Lithuania may not apply.

Anyway, that was years ago, in the days when you couldn't get green peppers in Torquay. I gripped the lectern firmly, looked out over my caravanning audience, and pointed to the right place. And on we went.

Recovering (while a recorded talking head explained more about viruses), an awful thought struck. Mona would be watching. Her hero's answer to her question would be proved a lie, in front of the others. She would be the laughing stock of the home.

A day or so later I learnt that Mona had died, 20 minutes before the programme. I went to her cremation, with Carl. We got there too late. If anyone else had attended, they had gone. Dear Mona. I hope she would have forgiven me. I didn't want to disappoint her — that was all. Honestly.

Anyway, that was years ago, in the days when you couldn't get green peppers in Torquay. I gripped the lectern firmly, looked out over my caravanning audience, glanced at my handwritten notes and, without AutoCue, began my speech.

# Cue for recalling a little white lie

MATTHEW PARRIS

world, I caught sight of a green wedge of slanted glass mounted on the lectern, palely luminous in the darkened hall.

Azargh! AutoCue. I knew it wasn't for my speech, yet the very sight of the thing was chilling to the core. And all because of a very elderly lady called Mona who lived in an old people's home in Hampshire.

My friend Carl, on the death of his grandmother, took to visiting the home once a fortnight to talk to some of the residents who had few surviving relatives, and therefore few visitors. Mona was his favourite.

And when she discovered that he was a friend of mine, Carl

became her favourite, too: for she loved the programme I was then presenting on television, *Weekend World*. She watched it religiously every Sunday and was my greatest (perhaps my only) fan. She was, apparently, wild about me personally. Very old ladies often are.

Carl, she said, "I want you to settle an argument for me. You know that Mr Parris gives long explanations on television of all what his programme's about and such like, and why — with graphs and diagrams and sometimes just him looking at us..."

"Well, he knows it all, doesn't he? There are lots of stupid old women in this home and they all

think he's reading it off some kind of a machine, invisible to us viewers. They all believe that except me. I know it's really him that's saying it because he knows it. But the others won't have it.

"Funny," I thought, "this pas-



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

## MARCH HARES

Mr Michael Heseltine's increasingly overt bid to lead the Conservative Party – and thus the country – will dominate this week's political debate. Opinion polls at the weekend suggested that, at least by historical standards, the mid-term unpopularity of both Prime Minister and Government is now too intense for comfort. Such predicaments have in the past proved susceptible to remedy, but remedies have usually been drastic – an engineered inflationary boom, policy-about-turns, Cabinet reshuffles and changes of leadership.

With up to two years before a general election, all are still available, but it is the last that is currently top of the agenda and needs to be resolved fast. Mrs Thatcher and her advisers must ask themselves, by October at the latest, whether in 1992 she will really be the best person to fend off Mr Neil Kinnock's Labour party. The question should be asked irrespective of the majestic profile of Mr Heseltine looming pregnant with significance, from every newspaper in the land.

Tardy departure is the occupational hazard of famous prime ministers. Churchill stayed too long. Macmillan stayed too long. Lord Wilson stayed too long. Physical exhaustion, restlessly rebellious successors, image fatigue, tired and accident-prone acolytes, an agenda empty of novelty, all conspire to thrust a prime minister towards the door – and then back again. "There is so much still to do," is rephrased as the more despairing "But after me, the deluge."

The Conservatives' present unpopularity invites concern but not despair. The economic outlook for 1991-92 portrayed by the Chancellor last week was not hopeless and certainly cheered Tory MPs at the time. Interest rates should soon be falling, and inflation alongside them. The traumas, most of them much-needed, that were inflicted on the education and health services last year should settle down. Even the poll tax should not be as awful in 1991 as this year.

More to the point, Mrs Thatcher bears few of the conventional hallmarks of a dying leadership. After 11 years in office, she is astonishingly fit. Her ambition is untarnished by longevity. She has lost none of her touch as an alley-cat party manager. Her Cabinet is tuned to a near-perfect pitch of loyalty. She has said she will not resign and appears, at present, to mean it. A contested challenge this autumn would almost certainly fail and would merely help Labour.

## HUNGARY'S GLORIOUS UNCERTAINTY

Hungary's first free parliamentary election since 1945 failed yesterday as predicted to produce a decisive, first round verdict. This complexity should not obscure the simple, astonishing fact of its taking place. Last year, Hungarians refused to believe that the communist dictatorship was at last collapsing. This vote refutes their scepticism.

It is less than two years since Mr Janos Kadar, Hungary's leader since the 1956 uprising, was ousted and 14 months since the truth about 1956 was first officially acknowledged. Only six months have passed since Hungarian troops began dismantling the Iron Curtain, the communist Socialist Workers' Party dissolved itself and the parliament it had so long dominated promised free, multi-party elections. The bloodless dissolution of communism has been confirmed by the campaign.

This has been a regular free-for-all, with hecklers, posters and TV advertising. The verve which all except the hardline communists among Hungary's 27 parties and 1600 candidates have brought to the campaign is the most heartening characteristic of Hungary's newly minted political diversity. The play on crude nationalism has been surprisingly muted, given the tumult in Transylvania. Voters have complained about the excess of choice, finding the number of parties and candidates bewildering, but even that shows how swiftly Hungarians have come to take their liberation for granted.

In the absence of a party capable of commanding an absolute majority, the precise complexion of the new government will depend on inter-party negotiations between now and the second round on April 8. But yesterday's results are decisive in two respects.

## THE CANTERBURY SUCCESSION

That the Archbishop of Canterbury should hold one of the most important offices of state is, in a secular nation, a paradox and an anachronism. Whoever succeeds Dr Robert Runcie – whose forthcoming retirement was announced yesterday – will have to force both church and nation to resolve this paradox.

The new archbishop will be appointed by a commission whose chairman will be the personal nominee of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, who will personally choose one of the two names suggested by the commission. The archbishop will also, *ex officio*, be primate of the Anglican Communion throughout the world. Dr Runcie was an effective Anglican primate, but world Anglicanism will not understand why a partisan politician should choose the next one.

The closeness of the church-state relationship over the appointment of bishops and archbishops belongs to the pre-1980s world of consensus politics. Both Mrs Thatcher and Dr Runcie have played their part in bringing the contradictions of that era to a head – she by her aversion to any consensus, he by adhering to it and thus making adherence seem almost a party political position.

Senior churchmen are rarely astute in the secular political arena. Dr Runcie was taken aback by political reaction to the 1986 report he sponsored, *Faith in the City*, and to his interview with *The Director* magazine. He could protest that it was government that had shifted the political ground. He had supported the collectivism espoused by his predecessor, William Temple.

Theologians may debate whether this is the best, or even the only, view a Christian church

More important to those who thrice voted her into office, Mrs Thatcher still has firm custodianship of the ark of radicalism which she assumed in 1979. She is what a Prime Minister should always be, critic as well as defender of her Government's actions. She has what Bagehot would have called an anti-ministerial streak. She makes mistakes. Her biggest since the last election, the poll tax and the inflationary boom of 1987-89, remain to be corrected. The gods of Sheer Necessity will rectify the former. As for the latter, nobody would nominate Mr Heseltine or Mr Kinnock as more assiduous toilers in the anti-inflationary vineyard than is Mrs Thatcher.

The underlying agenda of British politics remains unaltered – the reform of the supply side of the economy, the undermining of long-standing corporatist assumptions, the remoulding of the welfare state to meet soaring demand. Only fools could regard this agenda as either completed or no longer relevant. Mrs Thatcher can reasonably tell her faint hearts either to get out now or knuckle under. She never promised mid-term rose gardens.

Mr Heseltine's response is thus more limited. His supporters claim that whatever Thatcherism promises is electorally jeopardized by the continuation in office of its guiding spirit. The Conservative Party must ask itself whether it prefers to leave Mrs Thatcher in power until 1992, in the hope that she can make her reforms irreversible before a near-certain defeat; or would rather opt for diluted Thatcherism in Mr Heseltine's hands for the next two years, and the chance of victory thereafter.

The choice is not unreasonable, but for the time being it can go only one way. There are simply too many questions hovering over Mr Heseltine's head. He has shown himself uncertain and even disloyal under the pressures of high office. His resignation over Westland was an overreaction and damaging to his party. While he has put together a defence of his corporatism and internationalism, they seem little more than a renovation of old maxims which have long served as excuses for bad old ways.

Mr Heseltine is an interesting, even exciting, political personality. At present, he is just a flash in the pan. If he wishes his challenge to be taken seriously he must state clearly where the party is going wrong, and what he offers his party and country as a better leader than Mrs Thatcher. He must offer it now or not at all.

I write as someone with a hereditary disease, *Retinitis pigmentosa*, and as honorary secretary of the society that has raised nearly £2 million for research into its origins, prevention and ultimately, we hope, its cure. In Britain 25,000 families are affected by it and it is the second greatest cause of blindness.

The scientists who receive grants from us need no image-builders, nor are we simpletons duped by hopes of improbable cures. We understand the scientists and they us; in moral matters they give us the facts and then let us make up our mind. We have elected to support them.

Prospective parents will be able to decide for themselves whether to take advantage of scientific advances to avoid transmitting hereditary diseases to their children. Cardinal Hume and those who oppose all research into embryos want to deny that choice by law to their fellow citizens. Where is the morality in that?

Yours faithfully,  
LYNDA CANTOR  
(Hon Secretary),  
British Retinitis  
Pigmentosa Society,  
Greens Norton Court,  
Greens Norton,  
Towcester, Northamptonshire.  
March 17.

## Last post for some in 1992?

From Mr Henry Seymour  
Sir, I write to express serious concern over the future of the private-sector postal services that are presently available to businesses and professional people in this country. It is my belief that many firms and practices which rely on *bona fide* independent operators for cheaper, more efficient alternatives to the Post Office are unaware that their freedom of choice is already under threat.

The Green Paper on postal services in the Single European Market, due to be presented in Brussels in June, may, if unopposed, establish a Community-wide monopoly system which will effectively see the end of these alternatives for all communications under a certain weight.

No one argues that there should not be a monopoly to provide consumers and businesses alike with a standard service, at a standard price, which operates equally throughout the country. But it cannot be right that commercial concerns, many of which depend on value-added postal services not provided by the Post Office, should have their freedom of choice and efficiency infringed in this way.

Brin's Euro MPs and the Commission itself have received 2,514 letters of protest from members of the British Document Exchange – a licensed business alternative to the Post Office – over the last four days. I know because I have forwarded them myself.

Yours sincerely,  
HENRY SEYMOUR  
(Managing Director),  
Bridgac Ltd,  
DX House, Ridgeway,  
Iver, Buckinghamshire.  
March 23.

## Hereditary disease

From Mrs Lynda Cantor  
Sir, May I take issue with one aspect of Cardinal Hume's article, "Life and the way to moral death" (March 6). The middle part deals with the question of hereditary disease. "Much is made," he writes (and means, of course, that too much is made), "of the image of compassionate doctors struggling to find ways to eliminate the misery of handicap".

I write as someone with a hereditary disease, *Retinitis pigmentosa*, and as honorary secretary of the society that has raised nearly £2 million for research into its origins, prevention and ultimately, we hope, its cure. In Britain 25,000 families are affected by it and it is the second greatest cause of blindness.

The scientists who receive grants from us need no image-builders, nor are we simpletons duped by hopes of improbable cures. We understand the scientists and they us; in moral matters they give us the facts and then let us make up our mind. We have elected to support them.

Prospective parents will be able to decide for themselves whether to take advantage of scientific advances to avoid transmitting hereditary diseases to their children. Cardinal Hume and those who oppose all research into embryos want to deny that choice by law to their fellow citizens. Where is the morality in that?

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LYNDA CANTOR  
(Hon Secretary),  
British Retinitis  
Pigmentosa Society,  
Greens Norton Court,  
Greens Norton,  
Towcester, Northamptonshire.  
March 17.

## Leprosy in Russia

From Dr Michael Ryan  
Sir, Catherine Adams's report of March 16 from Romania gives a moving account of the plight of neglected lepers whose existence the Ceausescu regime had callously attempted to deny. In the Soviet Union, by contrast, it appears that there are now no secrets of that sort.

In conformity with the spirit of glasnost, the USSR Health Ministry have recently made available to the general public figures which reveal the incidence of leprosy during recent years.

The official data make clear that there are many cases of this disease, although the numbers have declined substantially, from 7,042 in 1970 to 4,214 in 1988. Each year some 12-15 new registrations occur, and about 1,000 leprosy patients are currently receiving treatment in Soviet hospital institutions.

The authorities have also indicated in which regions cases mainly occur. It is striking that these are not confined to Soviet central Asia but include the estuaries of the rivers Don and Volga. The number of anti-leprosy institutions is given as 16; of these the most important seems to be the Scientific Research Institute for the Study of Leprosy, which is located in Astrakhan.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL RYAN,  
University College of Swansea,  
Department of Political Theory  
and Government,  
Singleton Park,  
Swansea, West Glamorgan.  
March 17.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (01)782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Failures in the pursuit of growth

From Professor A. P. Thirlwall

Sir, In his article, "Growth: the elusive target" (March 22), Peter Jay says that serious economists must be preoccupied with the question why Britain did so badly in the first 30 years after the war, why it did specially badly in the next dozen years and why it is not likely to do any better from 1992, let alone the relatively low average growth rate of 2 per cent per annum during the 1980s, let alone the 2.75 per cent which the Chancellor referred to in his Budget speech.

The proximate answer is relatively simple: it lies in the neglect of the tradable goods sector. It is a fundamental truism that in the long run no country can grow faster than that rate, consistent with balance of payments equilibrium on current account, unless it can finance ever-growing deficits (which it can't).

Since 1950, Britain has had the lowest average annual growth of export volume of any major industrialised country and one of the highest propensities to import manufactured goods, giving it the slowest growth of output consistent with balance of payments equilibrium. Unless, and until, the country pursues a combined industrial and trade strategy to

boost exports and reduce imports, there is no hope of improvement.

If anything, under the existing regime of *laissez faire*, the situation is worsening. The long-run trend is unfavourable for all major sectors of the balance of payments accounts. Without some reversal, even on the relatively low average growth rate of 2 per cent per annum during the 1980s, let alone the 2.75 per cent which the Chancellor referred to in his Budget speech.

I found it very interesting and revealing that in the whole catalogue of "twists and turns of macro-economic wisdom" that Mr Jay mentions as having been implemented since the war to halt Britain's relative economic decline, a positive and coherent trade strategy was not mentioned – perhaps not surprisingly, because it has never been seriously tried!

Yours faithfully,  
A. P. THIRLWALL,  
University of Kent at Canterbury,  
Keynes College,  
The University,  
Canterbury, Kent.  
March 23.

### Thoughts on Budget

From the Director of Kids' Clubs Network

Sir, With the lifting of the tax penalty on employer-sponsored child care the Government may belatedly be beginning to confront the child-care challenge.

With at least one child in six leaving school daily for an empty home, the social costs of the shortage of child care for school-age children are frightening. There are only 300 kids' clubs in our network, providing care for 8,500 children.

The Government is relying upon employers to fund the expansion of child care. Not one employer in the country subsidises year-round, out-of-school care for school-age children while their parents work.

We need a national child-care strategy, involving central and local government, voluntary groups, and yes, employers. Substantial Government funding will be needed to underpin this partnership.

Yours sincerely,  
TESS WOODCRAFT, Director,  
Kids' Clubs Network,  
279-281 Whitechapel Road, EC1.  
March 21.

Increasing personal allowances would have the fundamental advantage of lifting some of those on the lowest incomes out of income tax altogether and, at the same time, give to those on the maximum taxable income at the standard rate exactly the same increase (e.g., £250 net for an allowance increase of £1,000).

The Government should recognise this as an easy and practical way of "targeting", instead of creating complicated and expensive rebate schemes which involve just the same group of beneficiaries.

Yours sincerely,  
J. B. H. BYFIELD,  
Broad Haven,  
Burrough Street,  
Ash, Martock, Somerset.  
March 20.

### Threatened bar to court access

From Mr Neil Addison

Sir, The Bar Council is taking disciplinary action, which could lead to disbarment, against certain barristers who work for firms of solicitors and accountants and who the Bar Council believes are offering legal services directly to the public.

This action is wholly unreasonable. The only justification the Bar Council puts forward for the rule against direct access relate to advocacy in the higher courts. However, employed barristers have no rights of audience in the higher courts; indeed, their rights of audience are somewhat less than those of solicitors. If the Bar Council were acting reasonably, it would either allow employed barristers full rights of audience or allow them direct access.

It is also questionable whether the rule against direct access is legally enforceable, either by the Bar Council or the Inns of Court. In two cases (*Bennet v Hale*, 1850, and *Kennedy v Brown*, 1862) the High Court has held that barristers have the legal right to deal with the public directly (see "Are the Bar rules lawful?", *The Law Society's Gazette*, October 20, 1988).

The Inns of Court only have power to disbar someone who is deemed to be a "fit and proper person". Since those barristers who are dealing with the public directly are not being immoral or unethical, the Inns of Court could be acting *ultra vires* if they were to do so.

Those barristers who are threatened should seriously consider an application for judicial review against the Bar Council and the Inns of Court. I hope they will.

Yours sincerely,  
NEIL ADDISON,  
5 Garside Road,  
Whitby Bay, Tyne & Wear.  
March 23.

### War crimes trials

From Mr Tom Bower

Sir, With great respect, Lord Shawcross (March 17) is mistaken to draw any parallel between the Labour Government's discussion and decisions between 1947 and 1948 concerning the termination of war crimes prosecutions in Germany and the situation which Parliament is currently considering.

The Cabinet decision in 1948 was motivated by the onset of the Cold War, the desire to rebuild Germany and most of all as a response to intense pressure by the British military government, which had so steadfastly refused to divert resources to the task. In ending Britain's direct role, the Government nevertheless expected the West German authorities and other European governments to continue the prosecutions.

Cabinet records for 1948 show no sign of the Cabinet having considered the possibility that some of these alleged mass murderers had actually arrived in Britain. If Lord Shawcross had known this to be the case, I am sure that he would have insisted that the suspects should be dealt with. The passing of time cannot dissolve that obligation.

Sincerely,  
TOM BOWER,  
10 Thurloe Road, NW3.

### Baltic prowess

From Professor C. J. F. Dowsett, FBA

Sir, Twenty-six years ago, when a Lithuanian crew which had won the Grand Challenge Cup at Henley was described in your columns as a "Russian" crew, *The Times* generously put matters right by printing, in my letter to your predecessor (July 13, 1964), what was probably the only Lithuanian to appear in a British newspaper. In it I quoted a hopefully apt line from one of the virtually infinite number of *dainos* that are the glory of Baltic poetry.

Now the land that the Russian epic poems (called *byliny*) themselves traditionally land as "valiant Lithuania" (*khrabrye Litva*) is in the news again, having declared its secession from a union to which it was illegally accessioned. A *daina* collected by Juska in the 19th century again seems apt. In it a maiden tells how her sweetheart has opened the granary door with a golden key and rolled away the stone from the door:

*Atrakinu svirno duris,  
Su aukso raiteliu,  
Aritino aikmeneliu  
Nu svirno dureliu.*

Friends of Lithuania will hope that he who could be considered to have opened the door to

# Remembering the horror of Gallipoli

On April 25, 1915, the first wave of an invasion force headed for the beaches of a Turkish peninsula. Nine months later the last survivors crept away, carrying with them memories of a carnage so terrible that Brian James discovered, they can still hardly bear to describe it

**A** few old soldiers, not yet faded away, will add a sort of tottering dignity next month to a task-force of dutiful politicians and long-bebereaved relatives on a pilgrimage to the battlefields of Gallipoli. There, 75 years ago, half a million men became casualties of a grim attritional campaign to establish a foothold on a crucial finger of land.

It was a campaign of a peculiar awfulness, because of the youth of so many involved, because of the close intimacy of much of the fighting, and because the great prizes of Turkey, an incapacitated enemy, and Russia, a revived ally, were there for the taking by more careful hands than those which directed the Allied expeditionary force. But the campaign was inept, the casualties appalling and only the courage of the men on both sides is a subject that permits of no doubts.

The round of services and warship salutes along the Dardanelles on April 25 will honour Anzac Day, so-called because the losses among Australian and New Zealand men were horrific. But scarcely a regiment of the British army, with names from the shires to the highlands, does not carry Gallipoli on its battle honours. India's battalions fought by their side. So did the French.

The star guests around the memorials of Gallipoli, to be attended by the Prime Minister and other politicians of stature, will be men well into their nineties (a half-dozen from Britain, perhaps 50 from Australasia) who trod these hills in 1915.



Fred Wray at the age of 16 ...

down behind some stores on the beach. I was the only one who got up."

These stories did not emerge easily. It was a feature of every interview that, when asked to talk of Gallipoli, each veteran selected some tale of the comic or bizarre: how the Turks had one day pelted them with figs; how they had played cricket on a half-sheltered beach, knowing that running to retrieve the ball would invite sniper fire. The acuity of it all had to be mined from their memories.

Was the horror forgotten?

Or buried? "I was so young that when I first saw men falling over it just didn't occur to me they would never get up," Mr Wray said. "Dead? I don't think I really took it in. Soon after that your mind goes into shock: you live for the day, a minute at a time. I think some chaps never did come out of it the rest of their days."

Another old soldier joining the British Legion Pilgrimage (the organization is also taking 25 sons and daughters, which means that more than 4,000 relatives will have been es-

cited on sponsored trips to 37 countries since 1985) is Arthur Bull, once of the Royal Gloucester Hussars.

He is braving memories of "a nightmare you wished you could speak of it. It was all too vivid. I would get the quivers ... Oh look, look at me now." His head went back, his eyes filled with tears.

Mr Wray will be 91 in May. I celebrated my 16th birthday in the trenches. No one knew. With bully beef and biscuits, and a pint of water every two days, there was not much chance of a party."

He was wounded shortly afterwards. "This Turk got a bayonet in my leg. I scampered back to our trenches, but I had dropped my rifle in the fight. So the chief petty officer sent me out to no man's land to find another. When I wiped the blood off, it turned out to be a modern Short Lee-Enfield. Bit of a prize, that. Another day five of us ducked



... and today, aged 90, preparing for his return to Gallipoli after 75 years: "Why am I going back? To see what the Turks think of us now — is it all forgiven?"

Edgar Granville there can be the greater understanding because he was barely 16. He had arrived in Australia a year or so before, looking for adventure and finding merely a home with a squatter family.

Then he saw a trooper of the Australian Light Horse and was "totally lost". He had these plumes of feathers in his hat, and looked magnificent."

He ran all the way to the recruiting tent, then trudged off, near to tears, when told to "run away and grow up. So I spent six months on Bondi Beach, making myself look bigger and tougher, and went back. They gave us a riding test, taking jumps while sergeants cracked stock-whips to scare the horses. I lost my hat, but stayed on, so I was in."

In Egypt, he took part in one sharp action as a mounted trooper, and then sailed north. "We had no idea where we were headed or why. Nor did we care: I was below decks, gambling. I arrived in the Dardanelles with £800. A

fortune. I went into action at Anzac Cove, worrying most about my money-belt."

He told of the first-night charge towards Lone Pine, of endless dangerous forays to fetch water from the rear, or to

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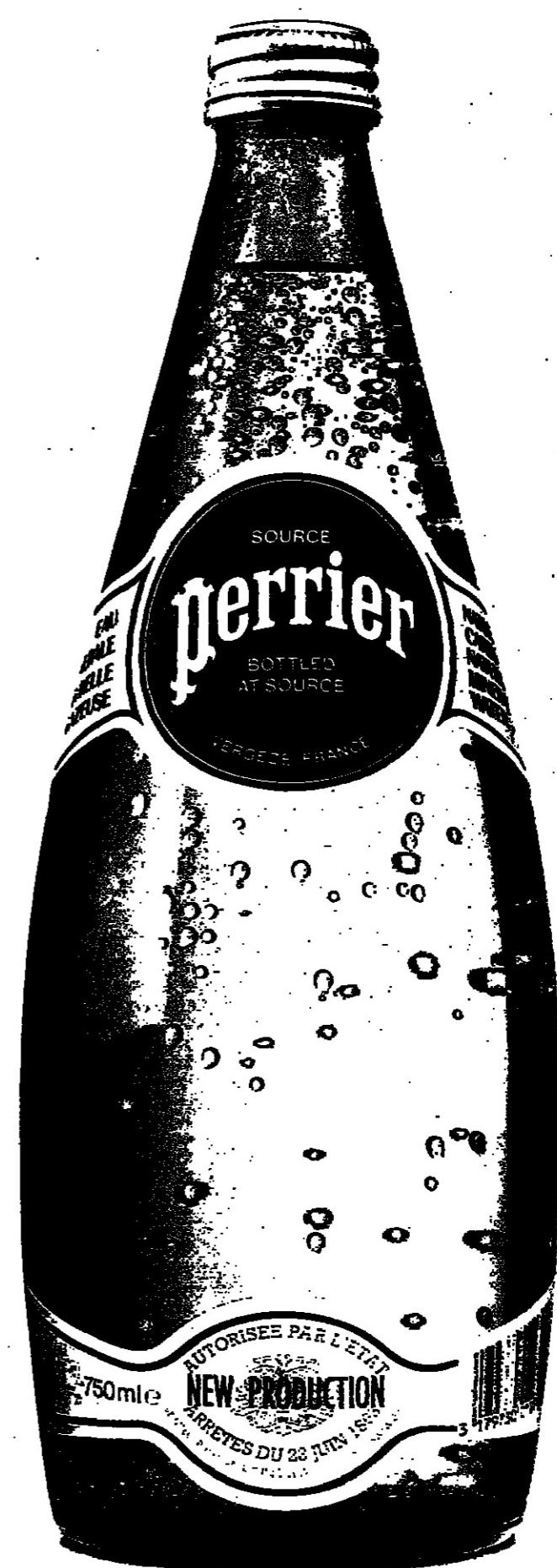
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BOTTLES, TO MAKE THE NEW PRODUCTION EASY TO  
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**COURT  
AND  
SOCIAL**
**COURT  
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**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
March 23: The Duchess of York was safely delivered of a daughter at 7.58pm today.

Her Royal Highness and her child are well.

Signed: Anthony Dawson, Anthony Kenney, Barry Lewis, Tessa Hunt and Michael Gormley.

March 25: The Duke of Edinburgh left Heathrow Airport this morning for the United States of America, where His Royal Highness will carry out engagements in New York as International President of WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) and as Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Brian McGrath was in attendance.

March 25: The Princess Royal, President, Federation Equestre Internationale, arrived in Berne this evening where Her Royal Highness will be attending the FEI Bureau Meeting and General Assembly.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam is in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**

March 25: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this evening visited Wolverhampton and attended a Dinner at the Civic Hall and a Variety Show at the Grand Theatre.

Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Mr Francis Graves (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands).

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

March 25: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, London College of Music, this evening attended at Concert at Southwark Cathedral, Cathedral Street, London, SE1.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

**Today's royal engagements**

The Duke of Gloucester will attend the annual meeting of the Westminster Society, Westminster School, at 5.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as a Trustee, will attend a concert in aid of the Jacqueline du Pré Memorial Fund at St James's Palace at 7.10.

**Forthcoming marriages**
**Mr R. Allingham and Miss L.B. Landman**

The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs H.L. Allingham, of Poole, Dorset, and Leonora, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Rowland Landman, of Coombes, West Sussex.

**Mr C.M. Creek and Miss S.L. Crossley**

The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mr and Mrs W.M. Creek, of Parsons Hill, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs M.T. Crossley, of St Albans, Hertfordshire.

**Mr P.J. Frost and Miss C.M. Lebbell**

The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Mr and Mrs John Frost, of Lewes, Sussex, and Christine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs George Lebbell, of Bathersea, London.

**Capt R.M.T. Reames and Miss J.M. Chawner**

The engagement is announced between Captain Robin Reames, Grenadier Guards, youngest son of the late Mr Ralph Reames and of Mrs Claire Reames, of Llanyndd, Powys, and Josephine, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Chawner, of Bangor, Gwynedd.

**Mr C.K. Fry and Miss F.C. Roche**

The engagement is announced between Christopher Keith, elder son of Mr and Mrs E. Fry, of Mt. Nelson, Tasmania, and Fiona Christina, elder daughter of Major and Mrs T.J. Roche, of Horstington, Templecombe, Somerset.

**Memorial service**

**Mr Roger Northcote-Green**  
A memorial service for Mr Roger Northcote-Green was held on Saturday in the Chapel of Workshops College, Nottingham. The Rev David A. Harding officiated. Mr Christopher, Captain of the School, and Mr David B. Moody read the lessons. The Archdeacon of Plymouth gave an address.

**Mr M.C.H. Pittaway and Miss C.P. Pendred**

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Henry Pittaway, of Stanton, Gloucestershire, and Claudia, daughter of Mrs Audrey Whitfield, of Warlingham, Surrey, and of the late Mr Barry Pendred.

**Mr C.M. Stroud and Miss J.F. Bishop**

The engagement is announced between Chris, son of Mr and Mrs P.J. Stroud, of Wallington, Surrey, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.I. Bishop, of Greenwich, London, and formerly of Harfield, Sussex.

**Mr P.H. Symes-Thompson and Miss J.A. Roppel**

The engagement is announced between Paul, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R.H. Symes-Thompson, of Sulgrave, and Jackie, elder daughter of Mr K.R. Roppel, of Stourbridge, and Mrs G.A. Warman, of Stourport.

**Mr P.J. Harbottle and Miss H.C. Hiscocks**

The engagement is announced between Paul John, only son of Dr and Mrs J.E. Harbottle of Tytherington, Gloucestershire and Helen Clare, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.E. Hiscocks, of Newton St Cyres, Devon.

**Service luncheon**
**Grapple Reunion**

**Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy and Lady Grandy** were the principal guests at the Grapple Reunion luncheon held on Saturday at the RAF Club. Air Vice-Marshal B.H. Newton, reunion chairman, and Mrs Newton received the guests.

**Thanksgiving service**

**Professor J.M.C. Dodgson**  
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor J.M.C. Dodgson, MA, FSA, will be held at the University Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square, London, WC1 on Friday, June 15, 1990, at noon. Those wishing to attend please notify Miss M. Greville, University College London, Gower Street.

**Isaac Bernstein**

## Spirit of Jewry revived

The study of the Talmud received a near-fatal blow with the destruction of six million of our people under Hitler. Not only souls were lost, but communities and *Teshuvot* (Academies of Talmud study) – bastions of learning. The very life blood of Jewry appeared to have been drained.

Who could have imagined that some few decades later the study of Talmud would attain a prominence in the life of world Jewry not enjoyed since the Golden Age of Babylon? In the English speaking world alone, the number of people studying Talmud can be counted in tens of thousands. A celebration to mark the completion of the study of the Talmud by those who learn two folios per day, comprising mostly professionals and businessmen, will be attended by 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden, New York this April.

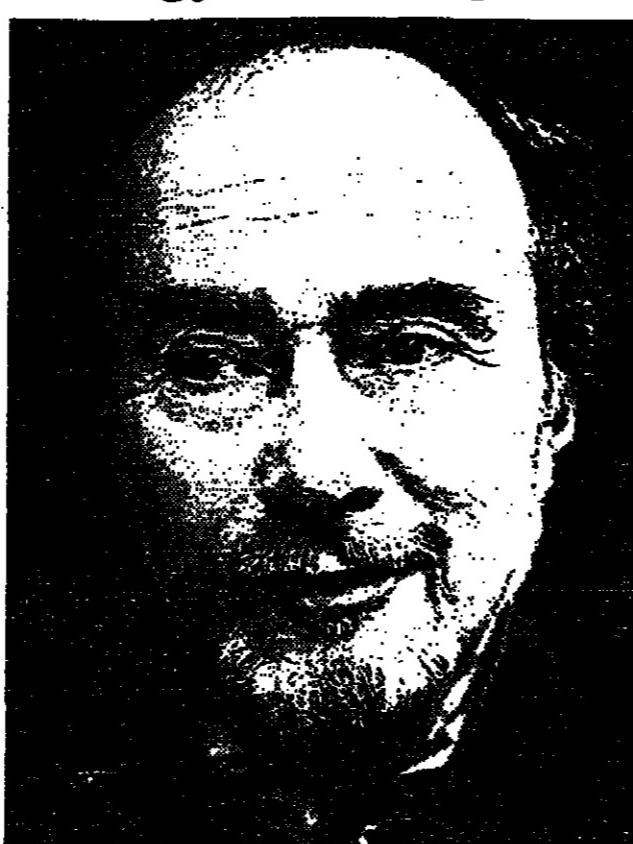
According to Jewish tradition, Moses received from God not only a Written Law (ie the Pentateuch) but also an Oral Law, the latter comprising two distinct sections. The first section contained the interpretation of the Written Law, eg "an eye for an eye", to be rendered as "the value of an eye for an eye", ie financial reparation. The second section contained a variety of laws, equally divine in origin, which were not written or even alluded to in the Written Law.

It is in regard to the Oral Law that we are told "Moses received the *Torah* (ie the Law) from Sinai, handed it down to Joshua, Joshua to the Elders, the Elders to the Prophets and the Prophets handed it down to the Men of Great Assembly" (*Ethics of the Fathers*, Chapter I, Section 1). In other words, Jewish leadership was entrusted with the supreme task of ensuring that the Oral traditions be preserved intact.

## OBITUARIES

### JOHN DEXTER

#### Director of energy and imagination in theatre and opera



The eyes revealed much about John Dexter, one of the most distinguished stage directors of his generation, who died of heart failure in a London hospital on March 23, aged 64. They were sardonic, appraising, infinitely attentive and usually one step ahead of anyone they were watching.

Dexter, like most of those who work in the theatre, have a great relish for gossip, for news of who was in and who was out. But beneath that there was the intellectual, the man who was in love with ideas and, most especially, with words.

He worked closely with contemporary playwrights, such as Peter Shaffer and Arnold Wesker, but when he directed the classics he went for the meatier ones and those that presented the greatest challenge.

Typically, it was Dexter at the National Theatre in the Old Vic days who proved that it was possible to play Molière in English. And it was equally characteristic that one of his best productions during a ten year association with the Metropolitan Opera in New York was of Poulenc's *Les Carmélites*, not exactly the obvious work for that house.

Throughout his professional career Dexter liked to live dangerously and the soft-option was anathema to him.

John Dexter did not grow up surrounded by matters of the mind. He was shy about his birth date and never included it in reference books. But he was born on August 2, 1925. His father was a plumber and John Dexter left school at 14 to work in a Derbyshire factory. The first inkling that he had talent came to him in the army when he rose swiftly through the ranks and also started acting. After demob he went on acting, in rep and on radio, in a solid and not very distinguished way.

John Dexter kept up his association with the Royal Court for 15 years and directed an equal number of plays there over that period. He became known as a "playwright's director", who had a keen eye for what was wrong in a script and had an ability to put it right. Probably this was one of the qualities which attracted the attention of Laurence Olivier, who brought Dexter to the National Theatre as Associate Director in 1963. The next author to come under the Dexter wing was Peter Shaffer, starting with *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*. Dexter used to say that he was attracted to the play by the bland stage direction at one point: "They climb as the tannoy in Diana Rigg's dressing room."

There was an equally successful combination in the West End with the double-bill *Black Comedy* before the summit of the Dexter-Shaffer partnership: *Equus* in 1973. With Alec McCowen as the psychiatrist and Peter Finch as the boy, this was one of the most exciting first nights seen during the NT's tenure of the Old Vic. Dexter lived with the play for a long time, directing it with especial success on Broadway, with Richard Burton.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; PERSONAL

Write down for the coming generation what the Lord has done so that people not yet born will know him.  
Psalm 102: 18

## BIRTHS

**MARSH** - On March 21st at The Portland Hospital, 100 Great Portland Street, London W1, to Flores (de) Pinto and Charles Sophie (de) Gobin, a brother to Dr. Harry, a brother to Sophie and a son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Mrs. Copper-Colles - On March 21st, in Washington, D.C., to Robert Edward, a son, of Mr. and Mrs. Philip.

**CHURCHING-SHAW** - On March 21st to Bridget and Rosalind, 22nd to Linda (née Shaw) and Ian, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Churching-Shaw.

**MAZELTON** - On March 21st to Linda (née Shaw) and Ian, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Churching-Shaw.

**WHITE** - On March 21st to Karen (née Dorrice) Carrick Wilson, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Mrs. Lewis.

**LEWIS** - On March 22nd to Belinda, 23rd to Mark, aged 33 years, beloved son of the late Charles Wallace. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Chelmsford, Essex, on March 27th 1990 at 2.45pm.

**WEIL** - On March 23rd, in a peaceful death at home, of peacefully, after a long illness, Brian Andrew Elton O.B.E. (late Major), daughter of Dr. Martin of Lymington, most beloved husband of Carol, 20th March 1990 at 2.05pm on March 30th at St. Edmund's Church, Chichester, Sussex. Services: Flowers to W. Bayley & Sons, The Caskets Ltd, Petworth, to Ashurst Research Services.

**ZVERECKOV** - On March 23rd, peacefully after a short illness, Alexander (Alksana) Zvereckov, 69, of the late Co. I 2nd Bn, D.S.O., C.M.G. and Mrs. Zvereckov, only surviving son, donations to the Hampshire Hospital and University College, J. A. Kenyon, 93 Marston Rd, London, WB GLA 01-937 0757.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES

**BASSETT** - On March 22nd 1990, peacefully at St Paul's Church, Cheadle, John, much loved father of John, Richard and Muriel. Funeral Service on Friday March 23rd at 2pm. Burial 2 pm, at Bowes Reefs Cemetery Chapel. Family flowers only, donations to the Children's Society. 200 Grosvenor House, Maybury St. WC1.

**BOLTON-KISCHMILL-STEWART** - Alastair to Alison on March 26th 1940.

## DEATHS

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**BOLTON-KISCHMILL-STEWART** - Alastair to Alison on March 26th 1940.

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

**ALLISON TO PRESTON-TWEEDY** - On March 26th 1940 at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, to Jennifer Lucy, nee Preston-Tweedey.

## SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

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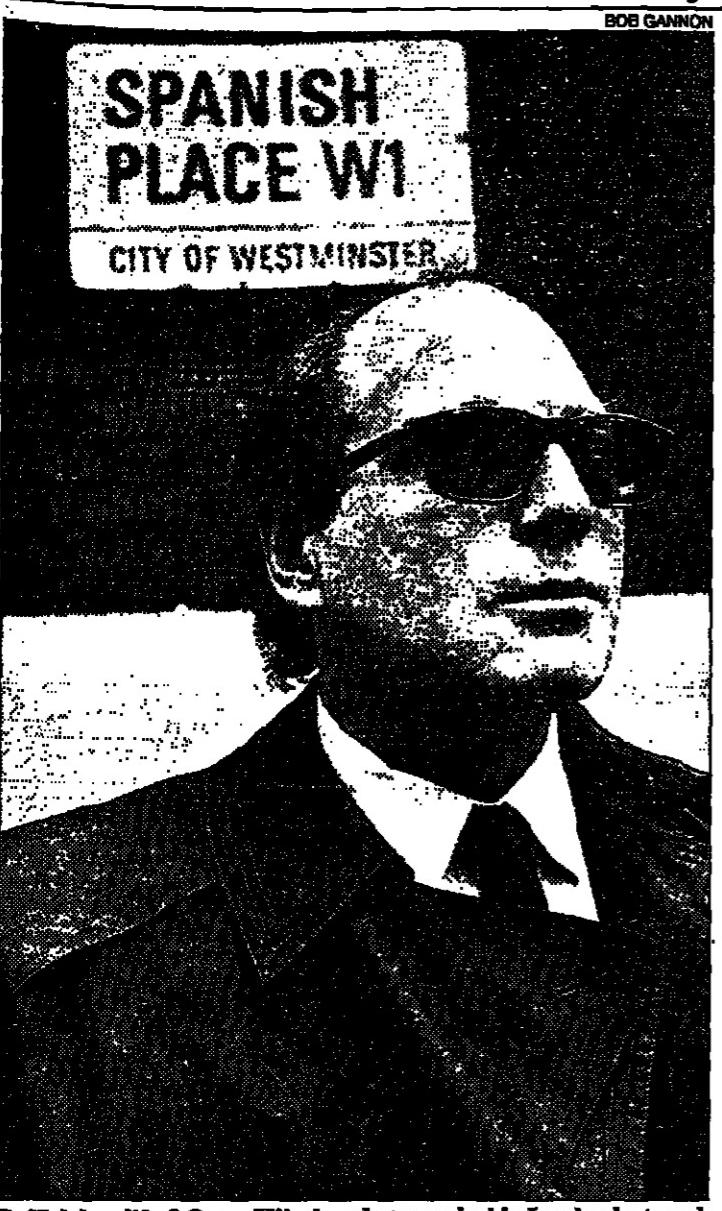
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## SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

**ROY**

## THE ARTS

Clive Davis meets US novelist Oscar Hijuelos, riding the promotional roller-coaster with *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love*



Raffish low-lifer? Oscar Hijuelos photographed in London last week

## Reality, fantasy and irresistible tosh

At least you know where you are with Jeffrey Archer. Rule 14 of the manual for aspiring critics may tell you not to like him, but put old Ed Asner, Lou Grant himself, in a suit apparently left over from *The Bronx Zoo*, give him a cigar and some of the worst dialogue since Edgar Lustgarten stopped fronting black-and-white murder mysteries ("I don't take losers to breakfast") and we are safely hooked on *Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less* (BBC 1).

Four fairly just men are trying to recoup a fortune out of which they have just been swindled by a bloke whose haircut seems to have been achieved by balancing several of Charlton Heston's old toupees precariously on top of each other. Somewhere in there, too, is an Oxford professor and amateur magician, having it off with Jenny Agutter ("Can I help it if I am turned on by a brilliant

research fellow like you?"). The production, by Clive Donner, indicates that since making *Charlie Chan and the Dragon Queen* he has learnt a thing or two about hokum, but not a lot.

Later on BBC 2, *Screentwo's Children Crossing* was a vastly more intellectual affair, but considerably less fun. Saska Reeves, an actress destined for awards, played the wife of a fanless concert pianist whose two daughters were killed in a car crash. At this point the plot lost still more of its already tenuous grip on reality, since we were asked to believe that the police would not have told the father of his loss, thereby allowing his fantasising wife to pretend to him that they were still alive.

## No stinting from a generous host

### ROCK

Jasper Rees

Luther Vandross  
Wembley Arena

Then "A House Is Not A Home". But Vandross's anthem will always be the locomotive funk number from his first album, "Never Too Much", with which he usually opens. This time he ended with it instead, opting to put greater faith in some of the more recent up-tempo material from his two biggest-selling albums, *The Night I Fell In Love* and *Give Me The Reason*, and performing the 10-year-old "Sugar and Spice" live for the first time.

Vandross's strength as a concert performer is that, with his musical director Nat Adderley, jun., he is able to reinvent his material for the stage. With a quintet of backing singers (two on stools, three gyrating through high-camp dance routines), Vandross develops goodish songs like "Til My Baby Comes Home" and "Creepin'" into showstoppers.

But the biggest showstopper, as always, was Vandross's spangled wardrobe. When he made his customary costume change from very outrageous jacket to very, very outrageous jacket midway through the show, it served as a confirmation that this is a man who never does things by halves when he can do them twice over. Generous to himself, generous to his band, whose CVs he exhaustively ploughed, he is above all generous to his audience. Even with the voice not quite on song, he lavishly entertained them with lashings of Luther.

## HOLLYWOOD'S BIGGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

# The Oscars

## EXCLUSIVELY LIVE TONIGHT ON



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# Resisting the Latin tag

**F**irst the novel, then the compact disc, followed by the video and, soon, "the major motion picture". *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love*, last autumn's big hit in literary New York, is becoming that dread phenomenon, a multi-media event.

Published in Britain this week, Oscar Hijuelos's tale of Latin-American musicians of the Forties and Fifties is being given the hardest of hard sells. At the same time that it arrives in the bookshops, a compilation of vintage Latin songs will be issued under the same title on Charly Records' Caliente label. The promotional campaign also includes a video of "soundies" — the cinema versions of today's pop videos — not forgetting the promise of a Universal Pictures film. The soundtrack is to be composed by that well-known Latin maestro, David Byrne of Talking Heads.

Hijuelos, a 38-year-old New Yorker of Cuban stock, views the process with detachment. After all, he only wrote the book; what happens next is the preserve of "the creative people". Apart from surviving the publicity round, he seems more concerned with how he is going to find the time to complete his next novel.

In *The Mambo Kings* he charts the career of the Castillo brothers, Nestor and Cesar, who travel to New York from Cuba to make their name as musicians. Riding on the mambo craze, their or-

chestra builds up a following in the dance halls, with Cesar channeling his surplus energies into a succession of love affairs and one-night stands.

The biggest break of all comes in 1955 when the brother's compatriot, Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball's husband, gives them a guest spot on the *I Love Lucy* show. It proves to be the highpoint of the brothers' career. Without giving away too much of the plot, suffice it to say that most of the story is seen in flashbacks through the eyes of Cesar as an old man.

Hijuelos sketches in the background in documentary style. Real-life Latin musicians — Tito Puente, Machito and Ray Barretto — pass through, and scholarly footnotes provide extra sociological details. The author was once a musician, playing guitar and piano with local groups. "I am too young to remember much of the period when the mambo was at its peak, but one of my aunts was married to a bandleader. They lived in Miami and whenever my parents shipped me off down there, I used to pick up tales about his past."

The photograph on the dust jacket conveys the image of a raffish low-lifer. But apart from his dabblings with music, Hijuelos has pursued a fairly conventional course, equipped with a Spanish-free accent and a master's degree in creative writing from New York's City University. He originally tried his hand at drama,

writing plays which never got beyond theatre workshops ("I was a lousy playwright") and then a novel or two that stayed in the drawer — though one, he says, attracted the interest of a lesbian publishing house in Brooklyn. He was working for an advertising agency when his acclaimed auto-biographical novel, *Our House In The Last World*, was published in 1983.

**I**n the US, *The Mambo Kings* has received generally enthusiastic reviews. But there have been stirrings amongst some Cuban-Americans, unhappy about the catalogue of sexual encounters. "Livid bones", "kingly sticks" and "big things" are wielded on page after page, while most of the women tend to be little more than, well, receptacles. Is Hijuelos guilty of exploiting the old stereotype of Latin womanizers?

"I have had calls from band leaders saying, 'You've got it right, Jack'. Most of the talk has been from people in Miami. They are not so much alarmed by any stereotypes, but because they feel it is almost too truthful. I think the book is full of affection for women, but I cannot impose modern values on a guy like Cesar. I mean, how do you write about cowboys — have them doing I-Ching by the camp-fire?"

He stresses that he is a writer first and foremost, more concerned with giving creative writing

lessons to students than churning out pulp fiction. "If I wanted to make a million bucks, I would change my name and write about Confederates or wild love affairs in Hollywood."

"This is not a million-dollar book. It paid my bills for a while, and it did well in hip places. As far as the rest of America is concerned, it did not go over, because there Latin Americans, aliens. Yet a similar attitude can be found amongst the people who run the literary machine. When critics applaud Hijuelos for adding to "the canon of American ethnic literature", the praise comes with a hint of WASP condescension."

Hijuelos is proud to be "a home-grown Latin-American writer". But any well-meaning attempt to confine him to the margins arouses his suspicion. "I am always being asked to do readings by people who think it would be a wonderful idea to have me up there alongside black authors like Toni Morrison or John Edgar Wideman. They are wonderful writers, but it is really an unconscious statement: that minority writers are not really part of mainstream literature, that they will be respected as long as they stay in their niche. My aim is to try to break through all that."

• *The Mambo Kings Play Songs Of Love* is published on Thursday by Hamish Hamilton (£13.99). Oscar Hijuelos will be discussing his novel at the ICA on Thursday at 12.30pm.

## Love, pain and transformation

# Cool and contrasted

### CONCERTS

Paul Griffiths

Nash Ensemble/Friend Wigmore Hall

Just two days after the London Sinfonietta had played Simon Holt's lucid and fantastical *Capriccio spectrale*, here were the Nash Ensemble with the first British performance of Holt's *Sparrow Nigh* for a rather similar ensemble, but in a more dramatic and fragmented vein. The title, owed to Chekhov, alludes to way of Raymond Carver, alludes to nocturnal experiences of terror which are negated by the calm appearance of the outside world, and the music not only depicts these un-touching extremes of panic and stillness in appropriate musical imagery but seems to make them simultaneous in many gestures.

The opening, of string harmonics in slow oscillations, provides an obvious example: an idea which is at rest but speaks unease. On the other hand, the solo oboe line, beautifully written for the always cool but engaged and eloquent Gareth Hulse, is generally wild and jagged in effect while also having a core of certainty and elegance: even the multiphonic effects are not just blasts of expressionism but musical ideas contained in the flow.

Other features of the score include a thundering piano solo and dense and disturbing, yet perfectly judged, chords for the full ensemble, often with the oboe exactly placed in low relief. Hulse gave an immaculate performance in a piece which is as packed with ideas and demands as any concerto; Lionel Friend secured vivid and imaginative support.

Otherwise this was a French evening, with Nash specialities (the Ravel Introduction and Allegro, Debussy's *Dances* and Poulenc's Sextet) joined by a rarer performance of Faure's G minor Piano Quartet, the finale enlivened by Ian Brown's reminiscence of his strength in the Holt.

David Fallows

BBC PO/  
Bishop-Kovacevich  
RNCM, Manchester

Watch out for the broadcast of Friday night's BBC Philharmonic concert and make a point of listening to what Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich did with the slow movement of the "Eroica" Symphony. Here was playing of exceptional flexibility and power, guided by a musician who has an uncanny sense of how the details fit together in an extended Beethoven slow movement.

It is, in any case, always instructive to hear what happens when a wonderful instrumentalist takes to conducting at a fairly late stage. Such a large part of the conductor's art lies in simply galvanizing all the members of an orchestra to pull in the same direction that there are relatively few who manage to be entirely successful. Fine musicianship is necessary but not sufficient.

Certain moments of apparently like-judged musical space tended to sound fussy and uninviting for want of careful direction, whereas comparable passages often show the finest examples of Bishop-Kovacevich's careful articulation on the piano. Directing Mozart's C minor concerto from the keyboard, he often gave the musicians more help than they needed.

With an intelligent leader (Andrew Orton on this occasion) and a well-coordinated woodwind section, it should have been possible to leave the orchestral players largely to their own devices and force them to use their chamber-music instincts more fully. That seems to have happened in Mozart's day, and several original-instrument ensembles have shown how it can happen now. The best passages — which were very fine indeed — came in the sections where the pianist was fully occupied and the players just followed his lead.

Impregnably complacent zealot: Barry Foster as Deputy Governor Danforth in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*

### THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

The Crucible  
Royal Exchange,  
Manchester

baleful consequences are engrossing but the intervening years have tilted the interest towards the motives of the men who passed the judgement.

Miller was not greatly concerned with what spurred on these judges, represented here by Deputy Governor Danforth, whom Barry Foster correctly plays as an impregnably complacent zealot. But in this modern age of death-dealing ayatollahs, the shallower focus on this character has become something of a gap in the play.

No such reservations attach to the other characters. David Allister's Hale, the devil-hunting cleric, begins as sure of himself as Norman Tebbit, whose face his own somewhat resembles, and ends desolate in grief.

The subtlest development is in the character of Proctor, out-

wardly the strong, hardworking farmer but deeply perturbed by his liaison with Abigail (Rosalind Bennett), most vengeful of the girls. David Schofield marks the steps of his terrified descent through the glances he gives his wife (Eleanor David); at first uneasy, then heart-broken as the net closes round her until finally, having torn up his false confession — a scene he plays magnificently — he can face her and kiss her as honest man. As well as everything else, the play is a love story.

Holmes sets it on a raft of planks above a lake of fitfully glowing lava — a daringly literal metaphor both for the Hell these characters believe in, and for the crucible that has burned away Proctor's frailty. For as well as a love story it is a proud account of human transformation, and Holmes and his company serve their author's vision proudly.

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## MONDAY PAGE

# Last innings for convent girls?



Vision of a fading age: since 1960, when this photograph was taken, the number of independent Catholic schools has dropped from 603 to 228, and the number of pupils from 82,929 to 66,028

**'I value the tremendous interest the nuns took in us. It was almost as though we were substitute children'**

**T**he old girls of the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Hove, Sussex, (motto: "Loyal and true") had mixed feelings about the first reunion to be held at their old school. The opportunity to trade nostalgia with old friends, rivals, tutors and mentors was tinged with sentiment over what had become of the convent itself.

For the purpose-built convent, constructed in 1877 by the French enclosed order of the Sacred Heart nuns, has become one of Britain's biggest Catholic comprehensives. The once neatly laid out dormitories, where girls hung their black chapel veils over cubicle curtains to indicate their intention to attend weekday Mass rather than spend an extra half-hour in bed, are now rambling classrooms.

The corridors which enclosed fewer than 300 "very over-protected innocent young schoolgirls", according to Dr Patry Ridgway, the organizer of last week's reunion, now resound to the thunder of more than 1,500 local boys and girls. The demise of the institution as a Sacred Heart convent in 1966 – it went on to become, first, a boy's school and then a comprehensive – is, however, typical of a general move away from convent education. While the demand still exists, the convent schools do not. As a result of the decision by the Second Vatican Council, during the 1960s, to bring the Roman Catholic

Church into the modern world, today's convent schools are, for the most part, run by lay management or independent school trusts, with the majority of teachers secular and – frequently – not even Catholic. Since 1960, the number of independent Catholic schools has dropped from 603 to 228, and the number of pupils from 82,929 to 66,028.

The effect of "Vatican Two" was to encourage the diminishing communities of nuns to serve society in less elitist ways than educating the children of the privileged. And the nuns themselves – many of them unqualified teachers – recognized that they were not always the best purveyors of an earthly education, even though certain convents boasted a high academic reputation. "We became far more aware that major positions, like headships, needed to have training and experience," says Sister Elizabeth Smith, aged 57, a former teacher. "You couldn't just put a nun in and hope that, by the grace of God, she would do a good job."

Indeed, apart from the close-knit family feeling, it is a lack of academic expertise which is remembered by many of the 300 Sacred Heart old girls who attended the reunion.

"The reason I left [the convent] was that I wanted to be a doctor, and at that time the convent couldn't provide the academic standard expected of someone thinking of doing more than being a sec-

**Sally Brompton**  
reports on the legacy  
— for both good and  
bad — passed on to  
the recipients of  
a unique way  
of learning

retary," says Dr Ridgway, aged 43, who went on to grammar school from the convent's Upper Fifth. "You had the impression that you did your O levels, became a nurse or secretary, got married and had lots of children to send to the Sacred Heart," says Dr Sally O'Brien, aged 40, who also feels that the convent was academically lacking. "I think quite a lot of us suffered from the feeling that we were not qualified to go out and earn our own living. The thing I value, perhaps more than anything, is the tremendous interest the nuns took in us. It was almost as though we were substitute children, their bit towards the future," Clarissa Dickson Wright, aged 42, remembers being encouraged in her ambition to become a barrister despite being "one of the school's menaces", once smuggling three live chickens into the dormitory. She also values the way that religion was taught at the convent. "I've met

Catholics who talk about fear and thunder and guilt, but I never lost touch with something up there."

Another former pupil, Polly Adams, aged 49, feels that she had plenty of opportunity to practice acting, her own vocation. "We were frequently working on plays or putting on our own productions. Academically, I was terribly lazy, Mrs Munoz feels she has no alternative to work.

"It's not just childcare," she says. "There are all kinds of hidden costs which tend to be underestimated, like buying Christmas presents for colleagues." As an unsupported divorcee with a daughter, aged seven, and a son aged five,

she says. "I do have a frugal streak, though," she says. "I buy my tights in bulk."

She pays about £20 a week for a cleaner. "If you go out to work you need your home to run efficiently. Even though men may be more enlightened if there's nothing in the fridge or no ironed shirt it's still the woman they turn to."

Women who work from home would appear to have the best of both worlds. Helene Hook, aged 40, is one of 350 ICL employees, mainly women, who work from home using technology installed by the computer company. As marketing manager of a software service she makes £20,000 a year for a 25-hour week.

She pays £40 a day, three times a week, to care for her two pre-school children, and a cleaner £12 for three hours of housework and ironing. "The big benefits are intangible," she says, "like having more time with the children and feeling more in control of my own destiny."

"I do go out to see clients so I have one or two smart outfits, otherwise I'm in tracksuit and trainers."

A third alternative is to work for a company which offers perks. Susan Hanington, 42, earns £21,000 as an employment adviser for Sun Life of Canada, the insurance company, but says that the cash value of all her benefits amounts to £7,000 a year. These include free car parking or interest-free loans for rail season tickets, and a mortgage subsidy.

Staff can work flexitime

and, although Mrs Hanington has no children herself such arrangements, she says, are a boon to working mothers. Lunch in the restaurant at the company's headquarters in Basingstoke, Hampshire, is free and, she says, excellent.

Catholic schools have large numbers of Muslim girls as pupils."

Not everyone approves of the more secular approach of the convents today. "I think they've lost something," Sister O'Leary says, recalling her own convent education. "There was a whole group of women teaching us who were immensely cultured, and there was a certain leisureliness and breadth about the education."

Sister O'Leary, who became known by her pupils as the "ton-up nun" when she began riding a moped in the early 1970s, a helmet rammed down over her veil, once organized a midnight feast for her better-behaved pupils who did not frequent the out-of-bounds Wimpy bars of Brighton. "I know that convent girls are reputed to be the easiest to seduce," Sister O'Leary says, "and no doubt there are a few flighty young people who do kick over the traces. But that doesn't take into account the large number of girls who aren't like that."

Dr O'Brien, who still keeps in touch with several of her former teachers, recognizes that while there was a limit to the amount of worldly advice the nuns were able to pass on, "within those limitations they gave a lot more than the average school teacher". She recalls one nun's earnest words of caution to girls visiting London: "If a man approaches you in the wrong way, you know where to kick him."

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# Counting the cost of going back to work

**Despite the Chancellor's childcare concessions, combining motherhood and a career can still be expensive**

**W**hen Karen Munoz returned to paid employment three years ago she earned £7,500 a year and gave a nanny £20 a week to look after her children. She calculates that, with all her other expenses, it cost her money just to re-establish a household in the job market.

Now Mrs Munoz, aged 31, is a regional manager for Universal Office Supplies. She has an income of £25,000 and a company car, but remains convinced that going out to work is an expensive business.

"It's not just childcare," she says. "There are all kinds of hidden costs which tend to be underestimated, like buying Christmas presents for colleagues." As an unsupported divorcee with a daughter, aged seven, and a son aged five, Mrs Munoz feels she has no alternative to work.

Other women, however, with less stark choices, should perhaps keep the calculator handy while listening to the current back-to-work blandishments. Ruth Michaelis, senior tutor in continuing education

at Hatfield Polytechnic, Hertfordshire, and chairperson of the Women Returners' Network, says: "There are some costs that go with our expectations of the role of women, such as shopping and managing the home."

"If you are not going in at a very high level, childcare can amount to 50 or 60 per cent of your income. If they are older there's the question of who takes them to their swimming lesson, or who collects them from Brownies."

Mrs Munoz estimates that she spends £1,000 a year on clothes, £200 on shoes, £100 on tights and £200 on her hair. Dry-cleaning costs her £3 or £4 a week and she uses an ironing service once a fortnight, which charges £5 for a 10lb bundle. "Men could get away with a couple of suits and a few shirts, but I have six or seven decent outfitts with matching shoes."

She has a cleaner once a week – cost, £10 – and pays a child minder £50 a week for pre- and after-school care. She admits to buying a lot of convenience foods. "I should have an account with my local Chinese takeaway. The trouble with working is that luxuries become necessities."

Many women, says Miss Michaelis, who are badly off initially are prepared to "grin and bear" short-term difficulties for long-term gain.

Sue Todd would agree. She now earns £35,000 a year, but when she first went back to work – when her son, now aged 13 and at boarding school, was a baby – she was nearly crippled financially. "I'm a great believer in motherhood but I'd have been distraught stuck at home all day. I had very little money left over, but I retained my sanity."

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Liz Gill

## Two rites of spring

**S**pring is here: daffodils bloom, lambs gambol, carpets are beaten and the Chancellor feeds ducks in the park. And, at midday last Wednesday, a procession of white-robed Druids filed up Tower Hill in the City of London. There, in solemn ceremony, they celebrated the passing of the spring equinox, when day and night are of equal length, and the sun rises in power over the moon.

This Friday, on the other hand, the Wombles, Glora Hunniford, Derek Jameson and the Tidy Britain Group will lead the public into "Womble-friendly zones" more commonly known as BP garages, Kentucky Fried Chicken stores and Salfreidges, Oxford Street. There, the public will be encouraged to purchase for £1 – the price of a few pints of petrol or half-a-dozen fries, a chicken leg and a cardboard box but no ketchup – one biodegradable plastic bag, one glove and one large, brown, plastic, bespectacled Womble nose. And then National Spring Cleaning Day will commence.

The two ways of celebrating spring could not be more different. The Druids, the priests of Celtic Britain and Gaul, were first written of in 200 BC. By the year AD 2 Caesar had forced them out of Gaul, whence they fled to Wales and Ireland, and it was not until the 17th century that Druid orders really flourished once more.

Other than vague facts about oaks and mistletoe, about sacred rings of stones and the celebration of the sun, relatively little is known about them. Rituals are passed down orally, in time-honoured fashion.

Celebrities involved with the Druids through the ages – such as William Blake, Win-

**Gaul.** Real Druids are to be seen in public only at Tower Hill, at Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain, for the summer solstice, and on the ancient barrow of Primrose Hill, north London, for the autumn equinox.

"People think Druids are a bit cranky," said Julie Gaving, press officer for the Tidy Britain Group, "but people think we're cranky, too."

And there are other similarities. Both groups follow a philosophy that demands change, both in their own lives and the world around them. On the publicity front, the Druids of 1990 welcomed spectators at the Tower Hill ceremony and even promoted it through the London Tourist Board.

"At the equinox seeds are sown and the rising sun activates the seeds," said a Druid spokeswoman enigmatically. "If you do not choose new seeds, which represent new plans of action, the sun will activate old seeds, your past habits."

Miss Gaving expressed the same sentiment in a different way. "It's all about blowing off the dust of winter, throwing out the old and bringing in the new."

Druids have been sowing seeds on the concrete by the Tower since 1952. "Some may find a crack, grow and literally break up the concrete," said the spokeswoman. "Symbolically our actions may break up the concrete that is modern man's mind."

"It's time for us to stop abusing the environment,"

Miss Gaving said. "Druids are at one with the environment, and so are we. National Spring Cleaning Day is a Druid ritual for today."

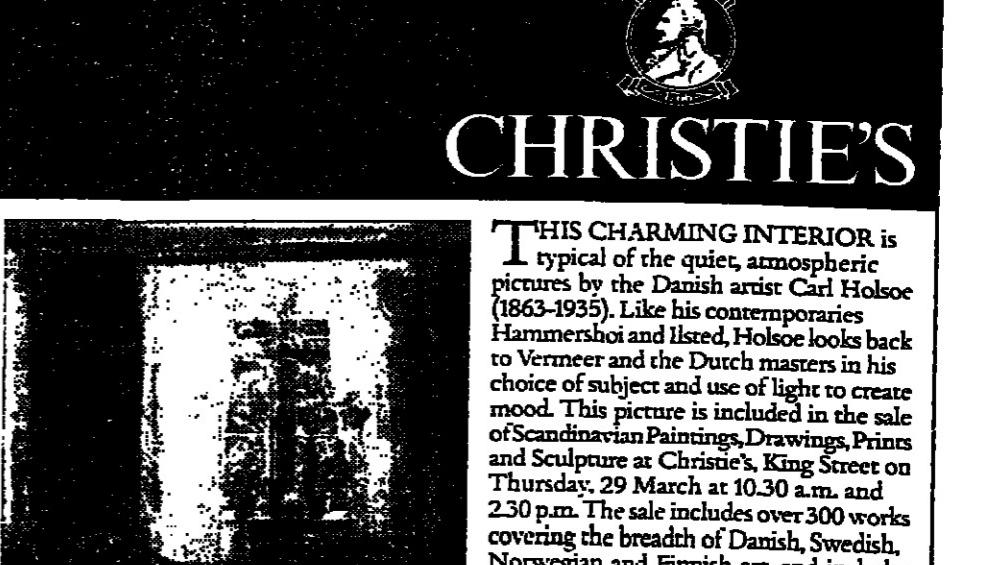
Nicola Murphy

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### TOMORROW

**Liz Smith on how tropical prints are putting fashion followers in a mood for beachcombing**

### Pick of the Week



**CHRISTIE'S**

**T**HIS CHARMING INTERIOR is typical of the quiet, atmospheric pictures by the Danish artist Carl Holsoe (1863-1935). Like his contemporaries Hammershoi and Ibsen, Holsoe looks back to Vermeer and the Dutch masters in his choice of subject and use of light to create mood. This picture is included in the sale of Scandinavian Paintings, Drawings, Prints and Sculpture at Christie's, King Street on Thursday, 29 March at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. The sale includes over 300 works covering the breadth of Danish, Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish art, and includes important works by Hammershoi, Jensen, Larsson, Liljevalchs Strindberg, Zorn, Monsted and Schjerfbeck.

For further information on this and any other sales in the next week, please telephone Christie's 24-hour Auction Information Service on (01) 839 9060.

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# EDUCATIONAL

Continued on page 40

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## EDUCATION

Edited by David Tytler

# A lesson for the Americans



**Sampling the British style of schooling:** Mrs Zelda Arison-Crichlow, a primary school headmistress from Rochester, New York, joins pupils at the Westborough High School in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire

**T**hree years ago, the former Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, returned from the Bronx declaring that Britain's inner-city schools could learn a few things from their American counterparts. Today, that process has been thrown into reverse.

By a twist of fate, the highly formal American education system is about to take lessons in informality from the very system that Mr Baker was so keen to shake up with his Education Reform Act.

The message being taken back to the United States this week by a team of 30 American teachers and educationalists, which has spent 18 days touring schools in England, is that "talk and chalk" are simply not enough.

The party, which saw schools in nine cities from London to Newcastle upon Tyne, came away impressed with the flexibility of teaching styles in Britain compared with the rigidity of methods used at home.

As Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools noted in a special report on a visit by 52 British educationalists to New York in 1988, classroom techniques in the US are formal indeed. The inspectors did not mind their words in condemning many of the lessons they saw as "unimaginative" and the amount of actual work done by students as "small".

The Americans, who are preparing their own report on their visit

to Britain, intend to be less harsh. It was clear, from talking to them at the end of their study tour, that many were impressed with what they had seen. As outsiders they were able to cut through the mass of jargon that surrounds so much of British education.

Anyone listening to the pronouncements of the English educational theorists could be forgiven for getting the impression that the teaching profession was given by schisms over how and what to teach. Unhampered by preconceptions about "child-centred education", "discovery learning" or "the teacher as facilitator", the Americans were able to see what

**The advantages in terms of the amount of work done and the attention paid by students were clear'**

the experts have bamboozled many Britons into ignoring.

Far from slavishly following the latest educational fad and fashion, teachers in Britain's schools use a wide range of teaching styles, mixing the formal and the informal to meet the needs of pupils.

It was this flexibility that particularly impressed Gene Maeroff, Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the closest American

**It used to be thought that British schools could learn from their American colleagues, but that view is fading, Douglas Broom reports**

equivalent to the inspectorate, who will write the American report.

"In our schools, teaching tends to be very formal," he says. "The teacher standing in front of a class and lecturing at them is the most common mode of instruction in schools throughout the country for students of all ages."

"That seems to be less common over here and the advantages in terms of the amount of work done and the attention paid by students were clear to us."

The traditional "talk and chalk" approach persists because "Americans have confidence in it. Parents associate that technique with rigour, although I believe that is open to question."

The contrast between the two systems could not be greater. While teachers in the US have held to the traditional way, their counterparts in England have been bombarded by initiatives and fashionable educational theories. Mr Maeroff says there have been "pockets of experimentation" in the US, but the system has remained broadly unchanged for decades. This is partly because,

unlike Britain, the US has no central authority for education. The American Education Secretary has none of the powers of his Whitehall counterpart to make or enforce national policy.

An American equivalent of the Education Reform Act would have been a breach of the constitution. Control of schools rests with the states and the 16,000 local district school boards, which actually run local schools. Under no obligation to heed the promptings of the federal government, they zealously guard their independence within their own states.

This fiercely local system has also resisted the kind of swings of fashion that have characterized British education in the past three decades. The influence of academic educationists has been far less marked.

But although this had brought a degree of continuity and stability that many British teachers would envy, interest is now stirring in ways of making education more attractive to pupils and improving their levels of achievement.

Mr Maeroff says: "Our system is based on students serving their

time. A student will get a high school diploma just by turning up." In the inner cities particularly, there is concern that pupils need to be motivated and involved in their own education. Too many see no connection between school and their futures.

The Americans are not about to adopt English theories wholesale. But the visitors are going back, determined to encourage some of the flexibility of the British classroom into their own.

"There are clearly parallels between the kinds of problems that schools in cities in our two countries have to face," Mr Maeroff says.

**'There are clearly parallels between the problems schools in cities in our two countries face'**

"I think we would accept that in some respects, particularly the drug culture, the problems are more severe in the US. In some city schools in the US, you will find the same kind of detection equipment that airports use to envy, interest is now stirring in ways of making education more attractive to pupils and improving their levels of achievement.

Mr Maeroff says: "Our system is based on students serving their

favourable comment from the Americans were less formal lessons, which encouraged pupils to find out things for themselves and take a greater part in their own learning.

They also commanded school uniforms as a way of overcoming extreme clothes consciousness, which has resulted in some American teenagers being killed for refusing to hand over their fashionably embroidered jackets to muggers.

Although the Americans are proud of their "open access" policy to higher education, which virtually guarantees a place to everyone who applies, the drop-out rate is horrifying.

The answer, Mr Maeroff believes, may lie in earlier specialization, along the lines that characterize the British system with GCSE and A level in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and O Grade and Higher in Scotland. Mr Maeroff adds: "Breadth in our country is often done at the expense of depth. You get a broad education that is only half an inch deep."

Whether or not Mr Maeroff's report brings about that greater depth of study in classrooms in the United States, the Americans have clearly been given food for thought by their English hosts.

In any case, the willingness of American schools to adopt British approaches to teaching will be less important than the opening of a new transatlantic dialogue.

PETER TREVOR



"I was amazed at the standards of interest, motivation and obedience of the classes" — Benjamin Fuller

work. In poorer schools, a lot of time has to go into preparing and printing worksheets because the textbooks are not available, repairing obsolete equipment... and otherwise saving money.

Working with poor resources might provide a challenge and stretch the imagination, but it stretches time and patience a great deal more.

Teaching as a long-term career has a bad press — low morale and slow pay and career progression are the usual images presented.

Unless graduates hold a B.Ed.,

they must complete a postgraduate teaching course before they can teach in the state sector. Although it is not essential to pass it before entering the independent sector, all the teachers with whom I discussed this on my placement considered it necessary — for the training it gave, and to help get a job. Starting salaries, about £10,500 for a good graduate, might

now be reasonable, but for most teachers pay rises slowly.

Spend two weeks actually in the classroom vastly improves my opinion of teaching. To me, there is no doubt that teaching — at least in a school such as the one I saw — would be personally rewarding and provide a good sense of school and staff community. Teaching is certainly socially worthwhile.

I was amazed at the good discipline and motivation of the children I taught. To some extent, I cannot quite believe this represents reality. If I also wanted to teach in state schools, the prevailing impression of badly behaved children and frustrated teachers would seem closer to the truth.

What stands out about talking to teachers, as opposed to other professionals, is their failure to recommend their job wholeheartedly. Many teachers enthused about the job, the pupils and their school.

The opposing view came from one staff-room moaner, who counted the number of times he still had to teach photosynthesis — "only 18 more times, then I can retire". In a career so concentrated on one task there must be a danger of becoming bored and unchallenged.

Teaching can be enjoyable and rewarding, but despite my positive experience, teaching as a career looks unattractive to me.

Even when the barrier of low pay has been both recognized and removed, potential teachers will still be here. Problems of lack of discipline and the low status of teachers, far less tangible than pay and therefore harder to deal with, will remain.

Parents, politicians, unions and teachers must unite and deal with them, to ensure that the appeal of teaching is really restored.

I have decided to become a lawyer.

other, irrespective of the particular school he or she happened to attend, and that required us to be able, at times, to fund schools differently.

All our research convinces us that even the permissible transitional period, unless infinitely long, will not actually solve the inherent problem of a formula that requires schools to be allocated budgets calculated on the basis of average teacher costs yet leaves schools to pay the actual pay and conditions of service for teachers.

Sooner or later, we believe, most schools are likely to find themselves with staff they need but whom they are not able to afford.

## Labour relief

**The death of ILEA will be welcomed in surprising quarters**

A few surreptitious sighs of relief will be heard at Walworth Road a week from today when a grateful Labour Party sees a huge source of political embarrassment consigned by an obliging government to the dustbin of educational history.

Many teachers and a few heads, will have a new spring in their step; no longer will they be obliged to pick their way so carefully through the minefield of doctrinal prejudice, while peering anxiously over their shoulders for the pursuing thought police.

ILEA is dead. Education in London can breath again. Bliss is in this dawn to be alive, even if youth is no longer on my side.

The public pretence will be different, of course. Muted ritual cries of outrage will echo perfunctorily around the land as the last rites are intoned. Decency demands it, as does the possibility of momentary political advantage.

However, few people will mean it: the disgruntled rump on the Labour benches, perhaps, who had hoped to use County Hall as a springboard for wider and grander political ambitions, and a few honest hard-working souls who will be looking for new jobs.

These include ILEA's ultimate education officer, David Mallen, who stuck loyally and efficiently to his task right to the end, for the sake of the schools and those in them. They certainly will not mean it at Walworth Road.

Nobody concerned to preserve freedom of expression and independence of action can regret the passing of the nearest thing we



have had to municipal Ceasefire. Under the leadership of Sir Ashley Bramall, ILEA was often wrong but relatively tolerant of dissenting opinions. Sir Ashley was prepared to engage in public debate with those of us who thought his policies misguided. After he emerged from the leadership contest in 1981 with nothing to show for it but the knives stuck in his back, the empire scenario changed.

In place of public debate, dissenters received warning letters and admonitory telephone calls from County Hall officials, who had been instructed to remind us of our contractual obligation to shut up and do as we were told.

However damaging to the interests and welfare of all our pupils some of us may have felt ILEA's new-found obsessions with race, sex and class to be, compliance with their instructions was demanded. And it was not simply a compliance but a silent, supine acquiescence.

A few of us did not manage it, and ILEA lost a lot of good heads and teachers, as well as some of its more independently minded inspectors. Among them were many of its most loyal and effective former supporters, including a number who were still members of the Labour Party.

Sadly, too many of their replacements appeared to have been appointed for their willingness to conform ideologically — or their ability to dissemble at interview — rather than for their independence of spirit and commitment to sound educational principles.

**S**ome administrators, heads and schools will now have to exchange their ideological armour for thermal underwear, better suited to keeping out the chill winds of parental preference. The latter, at least, allows greater flexibility of response to the real educational issues of the decade — how to raise standards and provide a variety of responses to differentiated needs — as opposed to the rigid postures imposed by the callow commissioners.

Teaching in London is not about to become an educational paradise. Some of the inherited and many of the inherent problems will remain. But the possibility now presents itself of schools being enabled to attend to the real issues of educational standards, discipline and the prudent and creative use of resources unencumbered by an ideological straitjacket that demanded almost exclusive dedication to social and political objectives rather than to the issues that concern all parents and most teachers.

Boroughs such as Wandsworth look set fair to transform the scene. Others still have some way to go before they expiate the sins of their fathers, but even the worst will find it difficult to equal the notoriety of the ILEA. And if they succeed, it will at least be on a smaller scale.

**Lawrence Norcross**

• The author is the former head of an inner London comprehensive.

## How school briefed me for a career in law

**Students will be paid £100 a week for up to four weeks in a work experience scheme to coax them into teaching.**

**BENJAMIN FULLER, a politics and history student at Durham University, took part in a pilot scheme last September when he spent two weeks teaching at the independent Durham School**

even relevant — but this was far removed from the sullen silence I had feared.

The buzz to be felt at the end of a successful lesson, where interest and motivation had been maintained, was real.

Furthermore, the work was entirely mine. Every short lesson can stand as a project, and potential success, in itself.

However, if every lesson is an opportunity for success, it is as much a possible disaster; every child is capable of having problems or making trouble. As one new to teaching, I was constantly unsure as to how much knowledge and mental ability I could expect of the boys.

To some potential teachers — whose own education has been a constant development of ideas and ability — going into reverse and repeatedly simplifying material is frustrating. Anyone teach-

ing for the love of a subject must especially find this a struggle — this teacher must also want to evangelize about the subject. After three years of degree studies, the factual nature even of a level is easily forgotten. The challenge of teaching is not in the material, but in its communication.

Even when the level of the material has been decided the teacher has to struggle to maintain interest — without losing sight of the topic that is being put across.

Again, communication is crucial, ways of thinking and presenting points must be changed. Often the point has to be repeated, so the way it is put across a second time must be different.

Every lesson also brings the expected, irritating problems of working with children; the need to repeat simple instructions — not twice but many times — and to break up personal disputes.

Despite these potential problems, my experience of classroom teaching was almost entirely enjoyable. The importance of the teacher's work to the children and their future would be re-emphasized as they developed.

A teacher, in any type of school, works very much as an individual. Many appreciate the freedom they have within their own lessons — an independence not always available to new entrants to other careers. Teachers also have to provide most of their own backup, however, doing all their own photocopying and secretarial

work. In poorer schools, a lot of time has to go into preparing and printing worksheets because the textbooks are not available, repairing obsolete equipment... and otherwise saving money.

Working with poor resources might provide a challenge and stretch the imagination, but it stretches time and patience a great deal more.

Teaching as a long-term career has a bad press — low morale and slow pay and career progression are the usual images presented.

Unless graduates hold a B.Ed.,

they must complete a postgraduate teaching course before they can teach in the state sector. Although it is not essential to pass it before entering the independent sector, all the teachers with whom I discussed this on my placement considered it necessary — for the training it gave, and to help get a job. Starting salaries, about £10,500 for a good graduate, might

now be reasonable, but for most teachers pay rises slowly.

Spend two weeks actually in the classroom vastly improves my opinion of teaching. To me, there is no doubt that teaching — at least in a school such as the one I saw — would be personally rewarding and provide a good sense of school and staff community. Teaching is certainly socially worthwhile.

I was amazed at the good discipline and motivation of the children I taught. To some extent, I cannot quite believe this represents reality. If I also wanted to teach in state schools, the prevailing impression of badly behaved children and frustrated teachers would seem closer to the truth.

What stands out about talking to teachers, as opposed to other professionals, is their failure to recommend their job wholeheartedly. Many teachers enthused about the job, the pupils and their school.

The opposing view came from one staff-room moaner, who counted the number of times he still had to teach photosynthesis — "only 18 more times, then I can retire". In a career so concentrated on one task there must be a danger of becoming bored and unchallenged.

Teaching can be enjoyable and rewarding, but despite my positive experience, teaching as a career looks unattractive to me.

Even when the barrier of low pay has been both recognized and removed, potential teachers will still be here. Problems of lack of discipline and the low status of teachers, far less tangible than pay and therefore harder to deal with, will remain.

Parents, politicians, unions and teachers must unite and deal with them, to ensure that the appeal of teaching is really restored.

I have decided to become a lawyer.

other, irrespective of the particular school he or she happened to attend, and that required us to be able,

## PREVIEW

TODAY Art &amp; Auctions

● TUESDAY Theatre &amp; Cabaret ● WEDNESDAY Rock, Jazz &amp; World Music ● THURSDAY Opera, Dance &amp; Books ● FRIDAY Classical Music

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

## ART EXHIBITIONS

David Lee

## NEW IN LONDON

**PAINTING IN FOCUS:** Winter Landscape by German Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich (1774-1840), which was purchased for the nation last year, comes under acute scholarly scrutiny, including comparison with other versions of the same subject.

National Gallery, Traquair Square, WC2 (01-639 3321). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until May 28. From Wed.

**JOHN CHAMBERLAIN:** Gaily painted metal constructions, not dissimilar to compressed car wrecks, by the leading American abstract expressionist sculptor. Also: post-Pop art pieces by Marilyn Monroe by 58-year-old teenager Peter Blake.

Wedginton Galleries, 5 Cork Street, W1 (01-437 8611). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until April 21. From Wed.

**GRACA COUTINHO:** Abstract landscapes, which, by using sand, straw and earth, exploit texture as well as conventional picture devices.

Todd's, 8 Ward Street, W1 (01-287 8195). Tues-Sat 12-6pm, free, until April 22. From Wed.

**E.O. NICHOLSON:** Textile designs and landscape and still-life gouaches.

Michael Parkin Studio, 11 Motcomb Street, SW1 (01-235 8144). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free, until April 20. From Wed.

**ART/LONDON 90:** Over one hundred galleries from 16 countries show their best stock with accompanying lectures, talks and razzamatazz, the best place to watch the art world in action.

Olympia, Hammersmith Road, W11 (01-486 1951). Daily 11am-8pm, £25.00, until April 1. From Thurs.

**KEN HOWARD, ARA:** Oils and watercolours by an academic painter whose larger works tend to be studio interiors, occasionally featuring nude models, but who achieves greater freedom when painting small landscapes outdoors.

New Gratin Gallery, 49 Church Road, SW13 (01-748 8850). Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, free, until April 21. From Thurs.

**WILLIAM BURROUGHS AND KEITH HARING:** "Apocalypse" and "The Valley", two collaborations between the novelist, wife-killer, gun fetishist and sometime painter, Burroughs, and a fashionable New York graffiti artist who died last month.

October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester Street, WC1 (01-242 7387). Tues-Sat 12.30-5.30pm, free, until May 5. From Thurs.

**ALISON BRITTON:** If you still doubt that ceramics is an art, the new abstract painted and sculpted works by Britton, who is among the finest contemporary potters, should finally persuade you otherwise.

Contemporary Applied Arts, 43 Earls Court, London SW1 (01-580 2225). Daily 11am-4.30pm, £2, until July 15. From Sun.

Street, WC2 (01-836 6983). Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, free, until April 28. From Fri.

## OUTSIDE LONDON

**GLASGOW'S GREAT BRITISH ART SHOW:** Julian Spalding's celebration of the best post-war painting including new canvases by Auerbach, Freud, Bacon, Kossoff, Davis, Bellany, Michael Andrews and others; no axes being ground here just good pictures in profusion.

McLennan Galleries, Glasgow (041 331 1854). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until May 13. From Tues.

**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES:** The reopening of this museum's renovated Old Master galleries, the first stage in a complete refurbishment programme.

National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff (0222 367951). Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-5pm, free. From Wed.

**THE BRITISH ART SHOW:** Works by 40 artists under 85 which attempts to spot trends for the '90s but which, when it opened in the new year in Glasgow, was critically rubbish for showing only works by the narrowest of radical mainstreams.

Leeds City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds (0532 462495). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2-5pm, until May 20. From Fri.

**PAINTERS AND POETS IN PRINT:** Artists' books from 1970-90, not monographs but bookworks made by many of the most acclaimed recent artists. Clemente, Johns, Kitaj, Caulfield among them.

Laing Art Gallery, Highgate Place, Newcastle (091 232 7734). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, free, until April 29. From Fri.

**MARC CHAGALL (1887-1985):** Twenty-four etchings illustrating Fontaine's children's fables by a painter whose own work was frequently engrossed with the dreams, myths and memories of his Russian childhood.

Weyside Arts Centre, Castle Street, Bulton (0825 522555). Mon-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm (closed Wed and Sun), free, until April 30. From Sat.

**FOLLY AND VICE:** The art of satire and social criticism, as seen in paintings, cartoons, graphics and postcards from Goya and Hogarth to Daumier, Gross and Beckmann.

Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Queen Street, Exeter (0392 265559). Tues-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 10am-1pm, free, until April 1. From Sat.

**WILLIAM MORRIS (1834-1896):** Exhibition of designs, prints and drawings from the Victorian designer and craftsman.

Bodleian Wyndham Castle, Chred (0745 854060). Daily (except Fr) 10am-5pm, until June 10. From Sat.

**DEVETSL:** Czech avant-garde art, architecture and design from the 1920s and 1930s, that is before the communists introduced Socialist Realism.

Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford (0865 728680). Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until April 20. From Sun.

**WILLIAM BURROUGHS AND KEITH HARING:** "Apocalypse" and "The Valley", two collaborations between the novelist, wife-killer, gun fetishist and sometime painter, Burroughs, and a fashionable New York graffiti artist who died last month.

October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester Street, WC1 (01-242 7387). Tues-Sat 12.30-5.30pm, free, until May 5. From Thurs.

**MARGARET MEE (1909-1988):** Sixty large watercolours by a leading botanical artist whose last years were spent recording the plant life of the Amazon rainforest.

Tate Gallery, Harwood House, Leeds (0532 886225). Daily 11am-4.30pm, £2, until July 15. From Sun.

## Confronting the present

**T**he artist John Keane prepares for his paintings like an investigative journalist. For new canvases about Northern Ireland he toured Ulster, took photographs, conducted interviews with both IRA and UVF, rode out with army patrols, attended Orange rallies and visited shattered front-line houses estates in Belfast and Derry. Keane is one of few current artists prepared to consider important issues of contemporary history as subjects fit for serious painting without resorting to infantile slogans, bad caricature and agitprop. He offers no easy solutions to the problems identified. Using collaged elements of corrugated iron, souvenirs and postcards, and exploiting allegory and symbol, he observes with quiet incomprehension. "Peace Giant" (pictured above), eight feet by six, is a strong image. It depicts an army observation tower on a border in Armagh. Painted ironically in the breezy style of a Constable oil sketch, the pill-box surmounting the scaffolding presents a gaunt face. Its expression is ambiguous, at once all-seeing and blind, aggressive and toothless. Isolated in the middle of nowhere, the structure is a monumental provocation, a target. *The Other Cheek?* Flowers East, 199 Richmond Road, London E8 (01-985 3333). Tues-Sun 10am-6pm, free. From tomorrow until April 22. David Lee

## AUCTIONS, SALES

John Shaw

## LONDON

**ZORN ZOOMS AHEAD:** In this fashionable sale of Scandinavian art, Christie's expect big things from Anders Zorn, a Swedish painter, whose work "Les Bourgeois" could set a new £1.2 million/£1.8 million record. August Strindberg is another favourite. Sotheby's also has works by him, each estimated at £800,000-£1.2 million.

Christie's, King Street, St James's, London SW1 (01-830 8080). Viewing today and tomorrow 9am-4.30pm, Wed 9am-4pm, Sale Thurs 10.30am-2.30pm.

**SOTHEBY'S:** New Bond Street, London SW1 (01-351 7111). Viewing today 9am-4.30pm, Sale Tues 7pm, Wed 10.30am.

**WALTER CRANE (1845-1915):** Crane's symbolic painting of man's journey over the bridge of life, lost since the 1890s, has recently been found and comes to auction at £10,000-£15,000.

Christie's (as above). Viewing today, Wed 9am-4.30pm, Thurs 9am-4pm. May 12.

**JEWELLERY:** A pair of naval cufflinks set with miniature compasses, worn by Emperor Maximilian of Mexico when he was shot in 1867 (£200-£250) is probably the most historically spectacular lot there.

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Christ

## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

Compiled by Penny Osborn  
and Gillian Maxey

## Sentenced without trial

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

• Helena Kennedy's *Cutting Edge* documentary *Mothers Behind Bars* (Channel 4, 9.00pm) highlights the fact that when women are sent to prison it is their children who are the innocent victims. Sister Elaine Roulet, an American nun, has been trying to do something about it. The children's centre she set up at Bedford Hills, the maximum security prison for women in New York State, is claimed to be unique. It enables children to visit their mothers in the cheerful surroundings of a playroom, with toys, books and games, and so help to keep the relationship alive. Since most of the



Innocent victim: an imprisoned American mother comforts her child (Ch4, 9.00pm)

women are serving sentences of 15 years, 25 years and longer the effort may seem wasted. But Sister Elaine insists that even a fractured relationship is better than none at all. And the Bedford Hills experiment makes an enlightened contrast with the practice in other prisons, where visits are rationed to an hour at a time, in a bare room, with a table separating mother and child.

• *Horizon* (BBC2, 8.10pm) follows the curious story of the scientists Fleischmann and Pons and their claim, broadcast across the world, to have cracked the riddle of cold fusion. It was one of the inventions of the century, promising a fantastic new source of unlimited energy. A year on, its credibility lies in tatters. Were Fleischmann and Pons deluding themselves or were they pushed into a premature announcement by the University of Utah, determined to beat a rival for the patent rights?

• With a George Gershwin sound-track and dazzling black and white photography, Woody Allen's *Manhattan* (BBC2, 9.00pm) creates a potent New York backdrop for the story of a comedy writer whose love life is no laughing matter. Moving from one hopeless relationship to another and predictably failing to drop anchor, Isaac Davis is an archetypal Allen creation, trying to hide his pain behind desperate jokes. His women are played by Meryl Streep, Diane Keaton and Mariel Hemingway.

• It is Austria's turn for *Eurocop* (Channel 4, 10.00pm), which means a return for Inspector Brucker (Bernd Jeschek), here investigating a United Nations man involved in a custody battle and the Swiss black market. Like other programmes in the series, this one is efficiently made without revealing a distinctive national style.

## RADIO 1

**FM Stereo and MW**  
News on the half-hour from 5.30am until 10.00pm, then at 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 1.30pm. **Jerri Brambles** 6.30 **Simon Mayo** 9.30 **Simon Bates** 12.30pm **Newbeat** 12.45 **Mike Read** 3.00 **Steve Wright** in the Afternoon 5.30 **News** 9.00 **6.00 PM News** 10.00 **The Head Collection** 6.30 **John Peel** 10.00 **Nicky Campbell** 12.00-2.00am **Richard Skinner**

## RADIO 2

**FM Stereo**  
News on the hour.  
**Headlines** 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30 **Alex Lester** 5.30 **Chris Stuart** 7.30 **Derek Jameson** 8.30 **Ken Bruce** 10.30 **Pauline McLynn** 11.30 **David Jacobs** 2.00 **Love 5.00** **Big Band Days** 7.30 **Big Band Era** 9.30 **Barn Special** 10.30 **Bob Bondurant** on Record 10.00 **The Clever Dick-Athlon** 10.30 **Hollywood's Oscar Nights** 11.00 **Round Midnight** 1.00am **Nightline** 3.00 **4.00 A Little Night Music**

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. Add an hour for BST.  
**5.00am World News** 5.00 24 hours: **News Summary** 5.30 **London**, **Milan** 4.55 **Royal Weather** 5.30 **Newspaper Review** 5.30 **7.00 News** 7.00 **Financial News** 7.30 **Tourism** 8.00 **Food and Wine** 8.00 **Crates** 8.30 **Anything Goes** 9.00 **News under the Brush** 9.15 **Good Books** 9.30 **Music** 10.00 **Popcorn** 10.45 **Andy Newsham's Do It Yourself** 10.50 **Horwitz's World of Music** 10.51 **Royal London** 10.50 **Medi Mail** 10.55 **12.00 News** 12.00 **Weather** 12.00 **1.00 News** 1.00 **Abc News** 1.15 **Health Matters** 1.15 **The Ken Bruce Show** 1.20 **Newspaper Review** 1.20 **Roundabout** 1.20 **World News** 1.20 **Financial News** 1.20 **Crates** 2.00 **Anything Goes** 2.00 **News under the Brush** 2.15 **BBC English** 3.30 **World News** 3.30 **Financial News** 4.00 **Popcorn** 4.15 **Horwitz's World of Music** 4.15 **12.00 News** 4.15 **Weather** 4.15 **1.00 News** 4.15 **Abc News** 4.15 **Health Matters** 4.15 **The Ken Bruce Show** 4.20 **World 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# BUSINESS

MONDAY MARCH 26 1990

SECTION 2

25

Executive Editor  
 David Brewerton  
 CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar  
 1.6030 (-0.0210)

W German mark  
 2.7419 (-0.0087)

Exchange index  
 86.1 (-0.5)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
 1795.1 (+5.7)

FT-SE 100  
 2283.9 (+20.0)

USM (Datastream)  
 14254 (-1.8)

## BTR to fight bid hurdles in court

From Our Correspondent  
 Los Angeles

BTR returns to a US court today in an attempt to dismantle two hurdles which threaten to scupper its hostile \$1.6 billion takeover bid for Norton Company, the Massachusetts sandpaper and grinding wheels company.

The British company gained a temporary standstill order over the Massachusetts state laws 10 days ago but must now argue successfully that they are not applicable in its case.

The first is a law which cancels votes on any stake above 20 per cent bought without board approval of the target company. The second is capable of stopping power changing hands. Without the target company board's approval, a bidder buying more than a 5 per cent stake has to get 90 per cent of the outstanding shares to gain complete control.

Corporate lawyers say failure to capture 90 per cent of the shares would ensnare a persistent predator in all kinds of US tax traps. BTR has so far bought only a 1.6 per cent Norton stake for \$15 million.

Should BTR win today's court hearing, Norton still has its own takeover-thwarting poison pill. This allows employees to buy Norton shares very cheaply and is designed to make a hostile takeover prohibitively expensive.

Blocking that tactic could mean changing the entire Norton board, which BTR threatens to attempt in a proxy fight at Norton's annual meeting on April 26.

Norton directors have until Thursday to give a formal response to the bid. So far they have said only that they are exploring all their options. Norton's shares closed in New York on Friday \$1.375 above BTR's \$7.5-a-share cash bid.

## Japan and US aim to calm markets

From Susan Ellicott  
 Washington

The US has complied with a request from Japan to help calm exchange rates.

Mr Nicholas Brady, the US treasury secretary, met Mr Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese finance minister, for talks in California at the weekend, in an effort to stabilize international markets after a sharp fall in the Tokyo stock market last week and the continued slide in the yen to its lowest in three years.

In a joint statement which contained no new policy initiatives, they "reaffirmed their commitment to economic policy co-operation, including co-operation in the exchange markets."

Neither said whether co-operation would involve stronger intervention in exchange markets to stave off the fall of the yen against the dollar or lower interest rates to try to weaken the US currency.

**TOURIST RATES**

	Rate	Bank
Australia \$	2.10	Barclays
Austria Sch	20.20	18.9
Belgium Fr	5.85	58.0
Denmark Kr	10.80	10.30
Finland Mark	6.84	6.84
France Fr	9.84	9.84
Germany Dm	1.42	1.42
Greece Dr	272.50	251.50
Hong Kong \$	13.18	12.20
Iceland Fr	1.05	1.07
Ireland £	2.15	2.15
Japan Yen	251	240
Netherlands Gld	3.205	3.025
New Zealand \$	11.08	10.63
Norway Kr	20.45	20.25
South Africa R	4.65	4.55
Spain Pes	1.82	1.75
Sweden Kr	10.32	9.82
Turkey Lira	2.32	2.25
United States \$	4.50	4.50
USA £	1.685	1.685
Yugoslavia Dinar	1.00	1.00

Rates for small denominations. Rates are subject to change. Data from the Bank of International Settlements. Actual rates may differ.

Retail Price Index: 120.2 (February).

He is negotiating with three potential

## Ridley delays MMC water merger report

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade Secretary, has held back publication of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the three-way merger of private water companies into Three Valleys Water, because of concern in the Government and the Office of Water Supply over a further shrinkage of the number of independent water suppliers.

No date has yet been fixed for publication of the report, although it has been with Mr Ridley since February 12.

The Commission is also due to report by April 12 on the minority interest of Southern Water, the privatized former water and sewage authority, in Mid Sussex Water, and on a 29.9 per cent stake in Mid Kent Holdings, one of the larger independent private water companies, held by Compagnie Générale des Eaux, the French group that would control Three Valleys.

The Department of Trade and Industry could not confirm that the Three Valleys report might be held up to coincide with the other reports, enabling Mr Ridley to lay out a general policy on future mergers.

The merger of Lee Valley,

Colne Valley and Rickmansworth Water into Three Valleys, which was proposed last July and referred to the Commission in September, is viewed as a special case.

It would bring together the divided ownership of the modern Iver treatment works, in which Rickmansworth and Colne Valley each have a

37.5 per cent stake.

Mr Ian Byatt, the director of water services, the financial regulator for the industry, is anxious to maintain enough independent companies to make wide comparisons of performance and efficiency, as a proxy for direct competition.

But there are widely differing views about how many are necessary to achieve this, against the possible efficiency gains of bringing together smaller units.

There are only 10 sewage

groups — the privatized former authorities. In theory, there are 39 water suppliers, including the former authorities.

But CGE, SAUR and Lyonnaise des Eaux control or have large minority holdings in 17 — many of them contiguous. Lyonnaise has also bought big holdings in two privatized authorities.

Mr Byatt has recently been to France for discussions over the plans of the three French groups, which now control water supplies comparable in size to those of the individual privatized groups.

All three also plan expansion into other public services such as waste disposal or private health care, thereby aiding the Government's contracting-out policies.

It is unusual for MMC reports passing a merger to be delayed in the DTI, since it then has no powers to exercise. But Mr Ridley has a special interest. As Environment Secretary, he was responsible for setting up the regulatory regime for water.

Delays are more usual when a merger is turned down by the MMC, in which case the Trade Secretary can reject its decision, or if conditions are attached which require negotiation with the parties.

Mr James McGowen, managing director of Lee Valley and managing director designate of Three Valleys, said he knew of no such negotiations.

"We are awaiting the Secretary of State's decision with as much interest, indeed rather more interest, than anyone else," he added.

## Boots sells Ward White automotive firms in US

By David Brewerton

Boots has sold the United States automotive interests of Ward White, the retailing group it acquired in a hostile takeover last year.

The three businesses, Whitlock Corporation, Rose Auto and R&S/Strauss, were always destined to be sold after the takeover, since Boots did not share Ward White's enthusiasm for the US operations.

It is understood that the businesses have been sold to one buyer, bringing proceeds from US disposals to about £120 million. The buyer appears to be a management consortium backed by a leading investment house.

The market is likely to react positively, both to the timing of the deal, just before Boots' year-end on Saturday, and to the fact that the businesses will not be a burden on management pending sale.

The division reported sales of £85 million in the six months to last July, the last for which results were published.

Operating profit was £7.8 million, against £6.1 million.

The sale is likely to reduce

Boots' net financial gearing to about 25 per cent at year-end, after the disposal last month.

The package, which Ward White was in the process of integrating into a single cohesive business, comprises 280 retail units, a mixture of auto parts shops and service bays.

In one defence document, Ward White claimed that the businesses were operating on margins among the highest in the sector, and that there was further opportunity to increase profits by introduction of electronic point of sale equipment and through greater buying power.

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of another Ward White operation in America, the Childs Corporation, a safety footwear distributor, for \$60 million.

The two sales, amounting to some \$150 million, will offset the £900 million costs of the takeover, and, although the proceeds are at the bottom end of expectations, they will remove some of the strain from the year-end balance sheet.

It is understood that the chairman, Sir James Blyth, has ruled out a sale of the pharmaceutical division, for which an approach was made by the French group Rhône-Poulenc.

This is partly because the new heart drug, Manoplax, is again doing well in clinical trials after disappointing results last year.

Boots has been anxious to

reduce its gearing after the Ward White takeover.

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By Derek Harris  
 Industrial Editor

## NFC looking towards 1992

NFC, the former National Freight Consortium which is Britain's biggest freighter and distributor, is close to making two acquisitions in continental Europe. The deals will widen NFC's European operations ahead of the single market.

The bigger deal will increase NFC's presence in France where it already has a warehousing operation, near Paris, for the French Marks and Spencer stores.

The smaller deal is in Spain. It is regarded as strategically important because Spain is expanding rapidly, both industrially and as a supplier of fresh food for the rest of Europe, including Britain.

Mr Jack Mather, NFC's chief executive, said: "We have a clear strategy to strengthen our presence in mainland Europe in all the NFC divisions."

These include contract hire and rental, distribution and home services, of which Pickfords removals is a part.

He added: "We shall follow our customers into the Continent as we have with Marks and Spencer. But we shall also move by acquisition and are most interested in France, Spain and Germany."

NFC needed to be less dependent on the British economy, he went on. Last year 23 per cent of the group's profits came from outside Britain. This year the proportion is expected to rise nearer to 28 per cent.

NFC is talking to half a dozen British retailers which want to enter the Spanish market.

A hastening by NFC into mainland Europe would be a key development because it has been one of the more cautious among British transportation companies about expanding there. Until now it has been concentrating on the United States where, having secured a strong distribution base in the North-east, it now has the southern "sunbelt" states and the West Coast in its sights.

Other deals to strengthen the British presence in European distribution should soon be in the pipeline. Transport Development Group (TDG), which has built up substantial holdings in France and Holland, is now involved in more negotiations which are expected to lead to additional acquisitions in France and Germany.

Other British operators with strong continental bases due for expansion include United Transport International (UTI), which is part of the BET services conglomerate, the P&O group, and Wincanton, part of Unigate.



Clear strategy to strengthen continental presence: Jack Mather, chief executive of NFC

## Tebbit set to leave board of Blue Arrow

By Michael Tate

Mr Norman Tebbit is expected to relinquish his directorship of Blue Arrow, the employment agency group.

The former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry could announce his decision at the Blue Arrow annual meeting tomorrow, when a vote will also be taken on a name change to Manpower.

It will bring to an end a bruising 2½-year experience for Mr Tebbit, who found Blue Arrow running into one crisis after another after his appointment in November 1987.

In December 1988 he was behind Mr Tony Berry in his ousting as the Manpower chief executive. Mr Mitchell Fromstein. Little more than a month later he was to back plans to remove Mr Berry, enabling Mr Fromstein to gain executive control of the group, as details of the cover-up over Blue Arrow's rights issue flop began to emerge.

Later the board came under fire over a £25 million loan to Mr Peter de Savary.

Under a three-year contract, Mr Tebbit was paid £17,500 a year.

His decision to go is said to have been inspired by the plans nurtured by BET, where he is a non-executive director, for a move into the recruitment agency market. These plans could involve the eventual purchase by BET of Blue Arrow's British operations.

The Blue Arrow directorship is one of five held by Mr Tebbit. As well as BET, he sits on the boards of Brush Telecom, Sears and JCB Excavators. He is also listed as advised to the chairman of British Aerospace, Professor Roland Smith.

Common building bricks were packed

to look like the company's hard disc computer products and sent to the distributors so that these could be counted as stock in transit. They were recorded in the 1987 statement as sales of \$4.3 million.

In 1988, when the report says

Miniscribe was

TEMPUS

# More investment trusts in the Pep frame

Mr John Major has given the reviving fortunes of the investment trust sector a further boost by making it easier for individuals to invest in them through personal equity plans. By cutting the proportion of assets required to be held in the UK from 75 per cent to 50 per cent, the Chancellor has doubled the number of trusts qualifying for inclusion in Peps. He has also raised the annual investment limit by a quarter to £3,000.

For those tempted to take advantage of Mr Major's largesse, we have selected a selection from among the 80 odd trusts that now qualify.

The carrot, as with all Peps, is that income and capital gains from Peps investments are not taxed. Investment trusts generally make lower management charges and dealing spreads are narrower than those on unit trusts.

## PEP INVESTMENT TRUST SELECTION

	Price	Discount	Forecast	UK
	P	to assets	yield	weighting
		per cent	per cent	per cent
Dunedin High Income	468	16	6.0	98
Yeoman Capital	135	21	5.5	95
Scottish National Capital	55	50	nil	85
Murray Income	221	15	5.6	79
British Assets	72	22	7.0	73
Electra	268	18	2.7	67
Globe	171	18	4.0	64
Edinburgh	210	18	4.0	59
Scottish Eastern	167	18	3.0	53

Sources: Leing & Cruickshank, BZW, County NatWest Woodmac

The new limits open up many of the big general trusts, such as Globe and Edinburgh, to Peps and it may be that Pep investors will be attracted by their spread of investments.

However, size is not always accompanied by lively performance, and Scottish Eastern, which has performed well over both one year and five years, may be a better bet.

Electra had also been a good performer until recently, with concerns about its exposure to leveraged buyouts holding the shares back. However, the discount to asset value is now much greater than last year. In this category, British Assets has a particularly good yield.

Among the high yielders, Murray Income and Dunedin High Income (which has just changed its name from First Scottish American) have good records. Most of the income trusts were eligible before the

Budget, because they are largely invested in Britain, but there must be a question mark over income growth in the next 18 months, as there is with British stocks generally.

Split-level income shares are not suitable for Peps because they usually generate a capital loss, which cannot be transferred outside the Pep. However, adventurous Pep investors should consider split-level capital shares because the capital gains they generate will then be tax-free. Yeoman Capital is a good bet because it will be wound up in 1992, but for those who can wait until 1993 for the pay-off, Scottish National Capital stands at a stiff discount and is highly geared.

## Charter Consolidated

Charter Consolidated has long suffered the ignominy of watching City investors gazing over its shoulder, trying to guess what Minorco, the holder of 36 per cent, will do next, before making their investment verdict.

Now, at last, Charter is demonstrating that it is, after all, its own man.

Another non-performing asset – its majority holding in Berlitz Tin & Wolfram – is to go as the more energetic management team under Mr



Jeffrey Herbert: wants active role for Charter Consolidated

Jeffrey Herbert, chief executive, gets into its stride.

Mr Herbert – who said of Charter last June that it was like Sisyphus trying to roll stones up asset mountains, only to find them rolling down again as soon as they reached the top – is now visibly moving Charter from a pas-

sive to an active investment group by the day.

Earlier this month, Charter put up for sale its MKR Holdings subsidiary, which makes drink- and food-cooling equipment used beside Wimbledon's Centre Court. MKR could fetch £10 million.

Berlitz has capital of be-

tween £10 million and £12 million employed, but in recent years has not been making the returns that such sums suggest. Since Berlitz, operating in Portugal, is the only wolfram mine producing tungsten concentrate in Europe, its sale should be of interest to other mining groups seeking European expansion.

Charter is selling Berlitz in a very public manner by putting up a "for sale" sign, and already a queue of buyers is forming.

In former days, a Charter asset sale might have gone to a company in its family. Now, Minorco – keen to expand in its own right – will have to join the queue if interested.

The Herbert philosophy is that every Charter asset should earn its keep. If that is to remain the guiding light, Charter's holding of Minorco shares – last publicly disclosed at 3.8 per cent, but probably lower now – may not stay. The 39 per cent stake in Johnson Matthey does, however, remain "strategic."

Charter's new management is determined that, within three years, at least 60 per cent of pre-tax profit will be generated from managed businesses, rather than the mere 30 per cent now.

The Berlitz exit sees Charter bidding goodbye to hard rock mining, and allows it to concentrate on Anderson Strath-

clyde (underground mining equipment); Pandrol (rail fastenings); Cape Industries (building products); quarrying and other opencast mining interests. Pandrol doubled its size in January through buying various US rail track companies, and Charter's expansion is not over yet.

Charter shares, at 434p, trade on a 38 per cent discount to estimated net worth, and on pre-tax profits estimates of £78 million (£67.7 million) for the year to end March, sell at 9.1 times prospective earnings. Worth watching.

## Tokyo

Bulls of Tokyo seem to have disappeared, if only into temporary hiding. Kleinwort Benson, a long-time follower, suggests that there is nothing to hold the Nikkei index above 30,000 unless long-term bond yields drop from 7 per cent.

Higher interest rates reflect the internationalization of Japanese finance. That was pressed for by the US to boost the yen – which is certainly not happening at the moment – but also to harmonize Japan with the other leading nations. This is working, by dragging Japanese growth rates – on which its high share ratings depend – down to the dreary levels of Europe and North America. Equality is pulling the successful down, instead of raising the laggards.

## Strauss to increase trading capacity

By Neil Bennett

Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, the French-owned London securities firm, is increasing its market-making capacity. From today it will start dealing in 15 more stocks to bring its total to 46.

The move comes despite continuing low volumes in the London equities market, and is in line with Strauss's plan to make markets in all FT-SE 100 shares by the end of the year.

The shares being traded include the big four clearing banks, and Legal & General and the Prudential. The Strauss dealing department has a strong presence in derivative products, including traded options and American Depository Receipts, and most of the new companies it will deal in are also traded on the options market.

The total of shares dealt will increase to 47 next month when shares in Argos, the retailer which is being demerged by BAT, start trading.

The company now has just six market-makers working on UK equities, but plans to increase this number to 10 before it starts trading in all the other FT-SE stocks. Its share-dealing side remains profitable.

## GILT-EDGED

# Budget fails to brighten hopes on long yields

**S**tripping out the presentational frills, the Budget was the rather bland, neutral affair the financial markets had hoped Mr Major would eschew. Gilts passed their judgement as the Chancellor spoke – the long gilt future slipped two points during the speech.

The yield on the benchmark Treasury 1½ per cent 2003/07 is now at its highest level since August 1982 and 2 per cent higher than at the turn of the year.

The reasons for the rise in yields have been extensively discussed. A list would include the worsening of the inflation outlook, rising real yields worldwide, the deteriorating fiscal position, expectations of a change in funding policy, the fall in sterling and the increased Labour lead in the opinion polls.

Does this long (although by no means exhaustive) list mean that, as a proof of Murphy's Law, everything that could go wrong already has, and that the worst is over? Unfortunately, probably not.

There are various lurking dangers that could push long-dated yields higher still, despite the extent of the setback.

Investors should worry about three issues.

First, base rates. Over the next few months base rates present a one-way risk – no hopes of a cut but the possibility of a rise. The threat comes via sterling. If the foreign exchange market becomes aggressively bearish of sterling (with higher German rates likely soon) then the Chancellor may have no option but to raise rates.

In the past, higher base rates have often proved to be eventually beneficial to the longer end of the gilt market. But this time is different. Higher base rates would worsen the recorded inflation profile and further damage the Government's standing in the opinion polls.

Secondly, the detailed annex in the Budget Red Book on funding policy did nothing to clear up the confusion on this issue. Reading between the lines, however, and bearing in mind the quite low PSDR forecast for the coming financial year, there does appear to be an official bias towards a resumption of selling gilt-edged stock.

Indeed, it is only a matter of time. One feature of the Budget forecast was how quickly the Treasury expects the fiscal surplus to disappear, even though it has pencilled in only very modest tax cuts for the next

Budget. On the Treasury's figures, the Budget is balanced in 1992-93. This assumes that previously announced expenditure plans are met. Concern is being expressed about pressures on public spending and whether, after the summer's negotiations, Mr Major will be forced to announce a large rise in next year's planning total in the Autumn Statement.

Last year, the Treasury agreed to a £5 billion increase and the betting must be that a larger concession will be made this year.

In the Red Book, the Treasury stated that it was concerned about an excessive Treasury bill issue and that it may respond by "increasing gilt sales or reducing gilt purchases."

The real risk is that the Bank of England might start selling stock again quite early in the coming financial year.

Thirdly, in the longer term, inflation must be the most serious concern. The problem is not the 9 per cent plus rate for April that will be released in two months' time. The problem is the next wage round, which begins in the autumn.

**O**n the assumption that the economy will avoid a recession and that inflation will be at (or only just a little below) present levels when the serious bargaining begins, why should the level of settlements in the next wage round be any lower than now?

If there is no convincing answer to that question, then the conclusion is quite clear.

The headline inflation rate will fall next year due to annual rate effects and because of lower interest rates, but the core rate will be stuck at a relatively high level.

At this stage, the danger will be that interest rate cuts will be driven by politics not economics. The long-term implications of this for sterling and long gilt yields are negative.

With the inflation outlook especially uncertain on domestic grounds and real yield prospects difficult to assess because of the international environment, the usual sort of analysis about the correct level of long yields has little value at the moment.

If the Bank is going to resume funding, however, we can resort to a more old-fashioned method of evaluation. Yields have to rise to a level where the institutions are happy to buy new stock – and we are not there yet.

**John Sheppard**  
SG Warburg Securities

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Business

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# BAT's directors facing Goldsmith legal threat

By Colin Campbell

Members of BAT Industries' board stand to be sued in their individual capacity if they fail satisfactorily to answer, by Friday, questions submitted to them by Sir James Goldsmith, the financier.

Sir James, who last year mounted a £13 billion takeover bid — now lapsed — via Hoylake for the tobacco-to-financial services conglomerate, requires BAT to satisfy him that its directors have acted in the best interests of shareholders after what Sir James alleges has been "blocking action" against his bid.

Sir James said his questions arise out of information put at his disposal as a consequence of US regulatory hearings into the position of Farmers Group

should a takeover of BAT succeed.

BAT, Sir James and Axa-Midi Assurances — the French financial services group poised to take over Farmers should Hoylake win control of BAT — are embroiled in US insurance commission hearings as part of the bid battle.

Mr Patrick Sheehy, BAT's chairman, rejected Sir James's complaints yesterday, but added that the group would reply to his questions by the deadline.

They were submitted on counsel's advice, it is understood. They cover:

• BAT's alleged omission to advise shareholders and others that its share buy-back programme could incur £400 million advance corporation tax liabilities.

depositions from BAT directors and others present at the November 14 meeting.

Legal proceedings, if pursued, would involve a hearing before a judge in chambers, a petitioning of the court, and a court instructing the company (BAT) to sue its own directors.

BAT said Farmers had incurred costs of £21 million in responding to Hoylake's "offensive in the US."

Mr Sheehy said: "Hoylake may continue to complain but our proposals to reshape the group and ensure that our shareholders keep the value themselves are proceeding satisfactorily.

"I have no doubt that the board will robustly reject the criticism," Mr Sheehy added.

He has already secured

## Golf Fund makes £9m buys

MICHAEL POWELL



Mixing business and pleasure: Colin Snape, Golf Fund chief executive, manages to fit in a round of golf at the weekend

Last autumn, the City finance house Gironzontale Gilbert Elliott raised £23.3 million of institutional money to invest in what it considered to be one of the boom markets of the nineties — golf.

Now, the Golf Fund, whose chief executive is Mr Colin Snape, former executive director of the Professional Golfers Association, has started to invest some of that money (Matthew Bond writes).

Two sites have been acquired. The first is at Hatfield Park, Stansted, Essex, where 350 acres have been bought from Mr Godfrey Cory-Wright for more than £5 million. The second is in Warwickshire, at Wootton Court, near Stratford, where the cost to date of acquiring 460 acres plus the squash and tennis club that the land surrounds is put at £4 million.

The fund is empowered to

borrow up to twice its equity, giving it potentially more than £70 million to invest.

Backing it are three of the City's leading institutions. Between them, Equity & Law, Norwich Union and Scottish Amicable own about 78 per cent of the equity. The National Farmers' Union Mutual Fund also owns a stake.

Mr Snape conceived the idea for The Belfry golf and hotel complex, near Birmingham, and it now stands.

The fund will develop a two-star complex where that is what the regional market requires, and joint ventures have not been ruled out.

ham, in 1974, and his plans for Hatfield Park and Wootton Court are similarly up-market. Each complex of luxury hotel and two courses may cost between £25 million to £30 million. They will be run on a pay-as-you-play basis and will welcome everyone.

The fund will develop a two-star complex where that is what the regional market requires, and joint ventures have not been ruled out.

The fund will develop a two-star complex where that is what the regional market requires, and joint ventures have not been ruled out.

## Fighting worker stress for £25 a year

By Graham Seargent

British companies are to be offered a programme for troubled employees to be counselled by chartered clinical psychologists — at an average annual cost of between £25 and £40 an employee.

The service would be confidential, with employees telephoning a helpline and arranging up to four counselling sessions a year, off the premises, usually in the evening or at weekends. Employers would receive only general statistics about usage of the scheme.

Corecare, the company offering the service, says it is the first in Britain to use a network of up to 40 fully professional clinical psychologists throughout the country.

Mr Richard Hopkins, a one-time City advertising executive who has set up Corecare, saw the market opportunity when he was advising Bloomsbury Health Authority on marketing its services, but decided that the National Health Service did not have the necessary business skills.

Mr Hopkins said: "There is nothing philanthropic about

employee assistance programmes. They are a management tool to achieve a higher level of performance."

He said the service was aimed at "people who are normally well, but just cannot cope and need a little bit of help". They were often loath to use in-house counselling for fear that management might learn of their problems.

American experience suggested that between 6 and 8 per cent of eligible employees would be using the service.

## Newsletter strikes gold

James Capel, the broker, is throwing a lunchtime birthday party today to celebrate a notable achievement. It is for the 1,000th edition of the James Capel Mining Newsletter, which was the first of its kind and which Julian Baring — the firm's gold guru — started 20 years ago to inform clients and friends of developments in the mining world. Today's guests include friends and foes down 20 years, and some of the more amusing Baring barbs will be recalled. They helped make the Newsletter required, and often amusing, reading. The good and some of the great will include representatives of RTZ, Minoro and De Beers, but regrettably Rudolph Agnew (against whose Consolidated Gold Fields group James Capel fought on behalf of its client Minoro in the 1989 takeover battle) has a prior luncheon engagement. "We would love to see Rudolph there," Capel's mining team said, "even if he would care to pop in after lunch."

### PZ pointer

If you want to know on which Tuesday the 1991 Budget will be delivered, find out when next year's interim results from the Cussons Imperial Leather group Paterson Zochonis are due. For nine of the past 10 years, PZ has not missed a Budget Day when it comes to announcing its half-time figures. "We do not plan it like that," finance director

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Queue jumpers . . .

The first store in Britain set up by Dawson International for its Ballantyne cashmere brand got off to a roaring start last week — even before the doors officially opened. The manageress was getting ready for the opening party on Thursday night, with the brown paper still in place over the windows, when a knock on the door was

Alan Whittaker claimed. "It just happens that way." And when are 1991's interim results due? Like the Chancellor, PZ can keep a secret.

### Ketch-22

Commercial Union's annual report and accounts contain an evocative sailing shot of a large yacht ploughing a white furrow across a green ocean. The caption announces that CU is the leading underwriter for many of the Whitbread

followed by an American voice asking if the store, in New Bond Street, was open. "Well, yes, I suppose so," the manageress said. Even before the door was shut again, the customer was joined by a South African, and both departed with £2,000 worth of sweaters. The store formally opened the next morning.

Round the World boats, and names the yacht as current race leader Steinlager 2. Unfortunately the boat pictured is not the famous New Zealand ketch, but the rather less successful Finnish sloop *Marie-O*. Her keel fell off in the South Atlantic. Happily, all on board were saved, but if Commercial Union insured the total loss for *Marie-O*, mistaking her for *Steinlager*, it could make an interesting note on next year's accounts.

• MIM Britannia's computer was quite unable to cope with the implications of a company investing in one of its unit trusts. After Adrian Bolton's company, Rosemarie Cosmetics Limited, bought some Britannia units, it was canvassed by an MIM mailshot designed to drum up business for the group's personal equity plan — which is available only for individuals. Just to make sure, MIM Britannia sent two separate circulars. "Dear Ms Cosmetics" began the first. The second, naturally, began its entreaty "Dear Ms Limited".

## Finance of generators thrown into doubt

By Martin Waller

The capital structure of PowerGen and National Power, the two new generating companies, has been thrown into doubt ahead of wasting day for the electricity industry, this Saturday.

The Energy Secretary, Mr John Wakeham, has suggested that the amount of government help might be limited.

He has asked the two generators for details of their plans to comply with increased pollution standards from fossil fuel power stations by 1993 by the European Community, which relate to sulphur dioxide output, the main cause of acid rain.

It is these plans, and the Government's reaction to them, which will govern the future capital structure of the generators after privatization.

There was no point in throwing money at the generators in the hope that they would use it to clean up their act, Mr Wakeham said.

It is estimated that about 12,000 MW of new "clean" generating capacity is needed by the British industry to reach EC standards. Both companies have already identified projects that would suffer — an arrangement known to account for two thirds of this.

Neither would comment formally, but it is clear that any suggestion that government help, in the form of low gearing to allow them to pay for the work needed, would not be forthcoming would seriously endanger prospects for the twin floats next year.

Focus, pages 31-39

## CBI drive for small investors

By Michael Tate

The CBI is stepping up its campaign to attract more individuals to share registers. Company leaders will this week be asked about attitudes towards private investors in a survey by the CBI's wider Share Ownership Task Force.

Mr Neil Stapley, managing director of NatWest Stockbrokers and a task force member, said: "A positive reaction from management is vital if we are to get a new investment message across to the man in the street."

The task force set up to find ways to increase direct share ownership, and chaired by Sir Peter Thompson, of NFC, is writing to all UK-listed companies, more than 2,000.

## ECONOMIC VIEW

# Major changes course over savings taxation

A radical change in the Government's approach to the taxation of savings has gone almost unnoticed. After solid progress during the 1980s in rationalizing the tax regime to promote economic efficiency, last week's Budget has swung the direction of reform through 180 degrees, raising the danger that we shall end up with the worst of both worlds rather than a coherent system.

The defect of the present system is that it treats different types of savings in different ways. Savings invested in an owner-occupied house or in a pension scheme attract big tax privileges. Buying shares in British industry, except in closely defined circumstances, does not.

In principle, it would be far more desirable to allow people to make their own decisions on how they allocate resources, uninfluenced by the priorities of governments expressed through the tax system.

There are two ways to move towards greater neutrality in the taxation of savings. One is to remove the tax privileges enjoyed by housing and institutional saving so that all savings suffer tax equally. The other is to extend tax relief to all savings so that effectively only that of a person's income which spent suffers tax — an arrangement known to go to work may be helpful.

Nigel Lawson chose the first approach. Though it would have been politically easier to give relief rather than take it away, he judged that the burden of government revenue of doing so was likely to make for very slow progress. The technical problems of moving from an income tax to an expenditure tax also raise formidable difficulties.

The themes which run through Mr Major's Budget are an acute political awareness and a strong concern for the social effects of tax policies. These factors are behind the abandonment of composite rate tax on bank and building society deposits, which, since it is not reclaimable, taxes the non-taxpayer and transfers the money to the better off tax-paying depositor. This blatantly sacrifices fairness to administrative convenience and its abolition is to Mr Major's credit, though it must surely bring blushes to the face of a government which extended CRT more widely to take in the banks only in 1984. Politics and a concern for the less fortunate are also detectable in the measures on football and charities as well as Tessa.

Mr Major's approach to tax policy certainly has a distinctive feel to it. It is not just politically adroit. Moreover, in resisting calls to raise the ceiling for mortgage interest relief and to abolish stamp duty on houses as well as shares he has shown insight and courage. But intellectual consistency, routinely undervalued at Westminster, is not the Budget's most prominent feature.

Rodney Lord  
Economics Editor

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## USM REVIEW

# Bimec set to prove green is the colour of money in environmental control

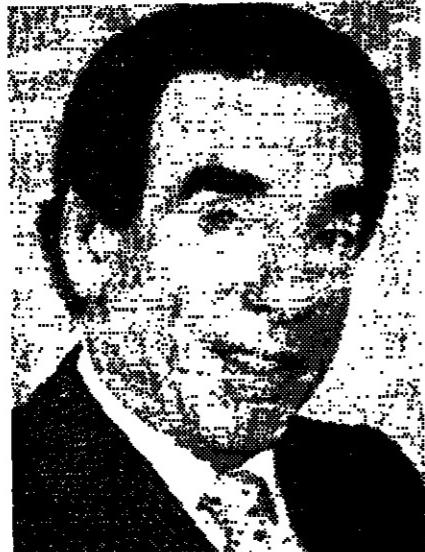
Mr Sam Smith, chairman of Bimec Industries, intends to make critics green with envy as he builds on recent success. Green is a colour which will figure prominently during the next few years as Bimec continues to establish itself as one of the leading environmental control specialists in Britain after emerging from the ashes of Biomechanics, the effluent treatment group.

Mr Smith and Mr Bernard Wheeler, his partner, were quick to spot the potential for a company such as Bimec in a world which is quickly becoming more conscious about the effects of pollution.

They wasted little time in turning the company round by bolting on complementary businesses which took it into such areas as aerospace, air conditioning and electronics. Last year, Bimec made its first pre-tax profit of £704,000, compared with a previous loss of £698,000. Analysts have already put in a figure of £2.5 million for the current financial year which ends this week, although they may have to raise their forecasts.

On Friday, Bimec took the next step in its expansion programme with the acquisition of Plastic Constructions (Fabrications) from Glynnwood for £350,000 in cash. The business specializes in the manufacture and distribution of plastic pipework systems for gas and liquids and general industrial uses.

The acquisition is important for Bimec, Mr Smith said. It will fit neatly with the rest of the operation and enable Bimec to produce fume and odour scrubbers to treat polluted air for use in the water and sewage industry. "We've



Growing: Sam Smith, Bimec chairman already had an approach from an Indian company which wants to market our scrubbers. Since the Bhopal disaster, the Indian government has introduced some strict regulations covering environmental control. It could become a big market for us," he said.

Last year, Plastic Constructions had a turnover of £4 million and is expected to make a positive contribution to earnings in its first year.

"We still have quite a bit of money in the bank, though," Mr Smith added.

The Bimec share price ended last week at 42.5p.

**Michael Clark**

## Innovare seeks £1.5m

A "green field" company is coming to the Unlisted Securities Market in a week's time by way of a placing, to raise about £1.5 million to fund what it claims is a revolutionary new tool for the advertising industry.

Innovare Displays, sponsored by Corporate Broking Services, has built a prototype of its main product, a mosaic display screen system, and says the advertising industry is already showing considerable interest.

Mr John Stoner, aged 35, the founding managing director who will be giving demonstrations to City analysts at Innovare's Brighton headquarters today and tomorrow, described the system as "resembling a television set, but much brighter... and designed for internal or external use."

Mr Stoner, a former electronic components buyer, said: "It has a number of potential application areas, from airport

lounges, stations and shop windows to advertising hoardings."

The mosaic screens, made of modules banked together to make the desired screen size, should last for up to five "relatively maintenance-free" years.

Mr Stoner said: "They are suitable for 24-hour-a-day use and will run for up to 50,000 hours. That enables advertisers to plan ahead much more efficiently."

Innovare's other product is an animatic sign system — a small glass screen, designed particularly for point-of-sale material, but offering more clarity and brightness than conventional signs.

"We decided to come to the USM because it's the best way of raising money and getting some publicity for the company," Mr Stoner said.

Impact day is April 4, and full financial details will be released then.

**Carol Leonard**

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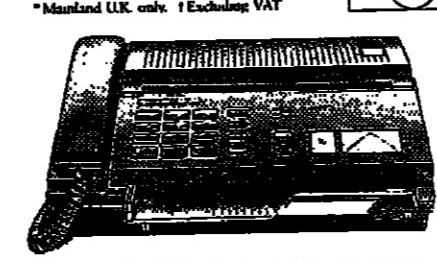
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E	Company	last	week	on	last	last	on	last	last	E	Company	last	week	on	last	last	on	last	last	
21,400,000	ATA Selection	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	3,470,000	Global Op	23	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
5,000,000	ATA Selection	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	21,800,000	Great Northern	172	-1	17	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
11,200,000	Abertay Plc	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,670,000	Greenwich Comms	23	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
3,000,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,070,000	Hallmark Inds	23	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
14,000,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,030,000	Hawthorne Lancers	31	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
7,000,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,000,000	Hawthorne Lancers	216	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
12,100,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,000,000	Hawthorne Lancers	216	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
2,000,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,000,000	Hawthorne Lancers	216	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-	-	-
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12,100,000	Acme Corp	23	-1	21	7.2	6.8	-	-	-	1,000,000	Hawthorne Lancers	216	-1	21	5.7	5.7	-	-		

## REPORTING THIS WEEK

# P&O profits expected to steam ahead

Sir Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation, may have been thrust into a weekend dilemma over whether to raise the £441 million bid for Laing Properties from P&O and Mr Elliott Berners' Chieftain. But he should have no worries tomorrow about announcing P&O's profits for 1989.

Passenger shipping should show a strong advance, reflecting the new working practices at P&O European Ferries.

The results will benefit from the absence of the previous year's dock strike costs while profits from container and bulk shipping should have recovered in the second half. Profits at Bovis Homes are expected to drop sharply, but this will be compensated for by commercial and overseas construction.

Sir Charles Pick, at Nomura Research, expects full-year pre-tax profits of £380 million, against £316.6 million last year, although this includes a £22 million profit from the sale of the holding in Taylor Woodrow. Market forecasts range from £375 million to £385 million.

## TODAY

Interior: Lloyd Thompson Group, Ossory Estates, Farmer Textiles. Front: Bedford (William), Boston.

## TOMORROW

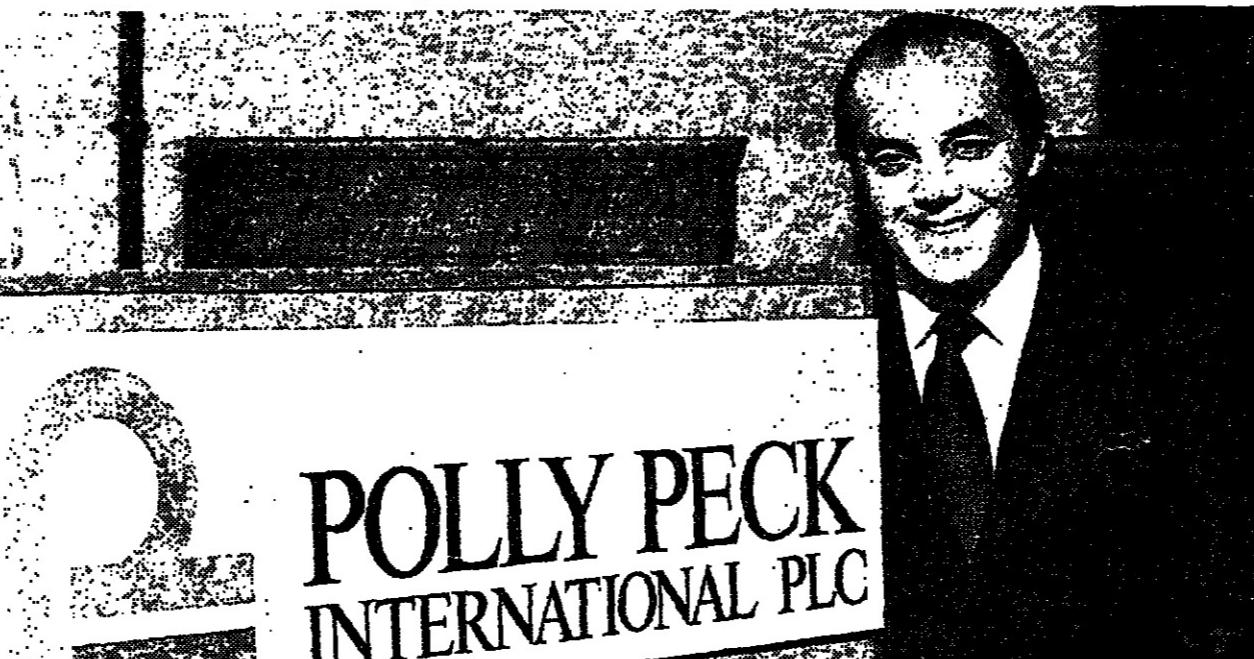
Prudential Corporation, the life insurance and financial services group, is expected to announce final pre-tax profits of £345 million, against £339 million, according to Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Life profits in Britain should reflect the strong growth in new life and pensions business. However, general insurance was exposed to losses from Hurricane Hugo, British subsidence claims and the Californian earthquake.

Interiors: Halstead (James) Group, Allied Partnership Group, ASD, Balfour & Bettridge E&B, Buzzi, Ciftron, Fisons, Conder Group, Derwent Valley Holdings, Executex Clothes, Hamro Countrywide, Iceland Frozen Foods Holdings, Malaya Mining Corp, Marley Metal Group, Peninsula and Oriental Steam Navigation, Pittard Garnett, Prudential Corporation, Scottish Heritable Trust, Singer & Friedlander Group, Steedley.

## WEDNESDAY

Bowater, the packaging and industrial products group, is expected to reveal pre-tax profits of £90 million for the



## POLLY PECK INTERNATIONAL PLC

Seeing the results of dramatic changes: Asil Nadir, chairman of the rapidly expanding Polly Peck International

full year, against £76.7 million, according to County NatWest WoodMac. However, this includes a £15.5 million contribution from Norton Opax, the specialist print and packaging group, acquired last September.

Hawker Siddeley, the electrical engineering group headed by Mr Alan Watkins,

is entering a fresh phase of restructuring.

Mr Nizam Harnid, at UBS Phillips & Drew, is looking for a 13 per cent increase in final pre-tax profits to £207 million, powered by 20 per cent growth from the electrical businesses.

Smith New Court expects the final pre-tax profits of

Kingfisher, the retailing group which is waiting for the MMC's verdict on its bid for Dixons, to reach £197.5 million, against £175.3 million. Forecasts range from £190 million to £202 million.

Interims: Barratt Developments, Cory, Progrom Estates, Corby, Arco Comms Equipment, Bodminton Group, Bowater Industries, Clayton Properties, Dunstone House Group, Edmond Holdings, Explora Holdings, Gibbs and Dandy, Grampian Holdings, Hawker Siddeley Group, Herring Son & Daw Holdings, Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain, House of Langleigh, Korda, Mountfort Oil and Gas, Poco Neutron, Rother Group, Senior Engineering Group, Sun Life Assurance, West Group.

## THURSDAY

The downturn in consumer spending will probably have

produced a fall in profits at Burton, the high street clothing retailer, with margins under pressure.

Nomura forecasts interim pre-tax profits of £105 million, against £117 million, including property development profits, which have seen a downturn, but excluding property disposal gains. Market forecasts range from £100 million to £117 million.

BZW expects pre-tax profits to tumble from £239 million to £147 million at Guardian Royal Exchange, the composite insurance group. The second-half figures will be hit by poor Irish motor results and a series of catastrophes, including British subsidence claims, the Australian earthquake and Hurricane Hugo.

Polly Peck, the rapidly-expanding electronics and fresh produce group headed by Mr Asil Nadir, went through dramatic changes last year. News is awaited on the progress of the acquisition of Del Monte Fresh Fruit — which will make about a month's contribution to profits — and the controlling interest in Sansui Electric.

Mr Bob Carpenter, at Kitcat & Aitken, has pencilled in full-year pre-tax profits of £155 million (£112 million).

UBS Phillips & Drew expects final taxable profits of £244 million (£221.5 million)

for Redland, the building materials group, although this is at the lower end of forecasts ranging from £242 million to £250 million.

Interims: Bridport Gundry, Burton Group, Menlove Group, Molynieux Estates, Murray Ventures, Town Centre Securities.

Finals: Brooks Service Group, Burmah Oil, Capital and Regional Properties, Ciba-Geigy, Colgate-Palmolive, Dornon Packaging, Druck Holdings, European Home Products, EW FACT, Fitch-RS, Guardian Royal Exchange, London Fortering, Macmillan Group, National Grid, New Compounds, Plasmeac, Polly Peck International, Portman Pomeroy (Holdings), Radius, Redland, Reyno Group, Slough Estates, Smith & Griggs, Tioxide, Turner, Turner-Bordet, United Newspapers, Wimbley, Western Motor Holdings, Wilkes (James).

## FRIDAY

Flemings Research expects Pearson, the publishing group, chaired by Lord Blackham, to report full-year pre-tax profits of £238 million (£198 million). Newspapers, which account for about 25 per cent of trading profits, should raise their pre-tax contribution from £54.4 million to £65.3 million, benefiting from the first full year of *Les Echos*, the French financial newspaper.

Interims: Adwest Group, Festus, Finch Holdings, ATA Selection, Blackwood Lodge, Gardner (DC) Group, Gudene Group, Lincoln House, Pearson.

Philip Pangalos

## US NOTEBOOK

## Banks retreat as property virus spreads

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The Federal Reserve may be in the process of throwing away all the hard-won gains in the battle against inflation over the past three years.

Since the middle of last year, money growth — at least for M1 and M2 — has bolted. Since last June, M2, which rose a mere 4 per cent annually in the two-and-a-half years to mid-1989, has been soaring at nearly 7½ per cent a year.

Such money growth may dampen hopes of declining US inflation. Prices are rising 4.5 per cent a year, as measured by "core" inflation."

More disturbing still, the monetary base (the sum of banks' reserves plus currency notes and coins) has exploded since late 1989.

The St Louis Federal Reserve says that while the monetary base rose but 1.7 per cent a year in the six months to last September, its rate of growth since September has been a stunning 6.9 per cent.

Growth since last November has been even higher.

From November to March — the latest period for which data are available — the monetary base grew at break-neck speed — more than 10 per cent a year, according to the St Louis Fed.

Since Christmas, the bond market has been steeped in gloom. At the same time, commodity prices have been unexpectedly buoyant.

It's the answer to be found in a stealthy switch by the Federal Reserve to a policy of flooding the market with cash?

Meanwhile, in another strange development, shares and bonds have headed off in different directions.

Since November, Standard and Poor's 500 index has remained about 340. But over the same period, the June Treasury bond contract has slumped from 100 to about 93, bringing unexpected losses to

those who were long in bonds at Thanksgiving.

Another odd development is that the commercial banks are too frightened to make new loans, particularly to anything that looks or talks like property.

Small and large businesses alike are complaining the banks will not lend money.

Banks are scared to make loans. Their shares are under pressure, with most of the big New York and regional names at or near 52-week lows.

Note how the California banks — First Interstate, Security Pacific, Wells Fargo and Bank of America — have joined the New England and New York banks on the low price list. This is indicative of the spread of the property loan loss virus into California.

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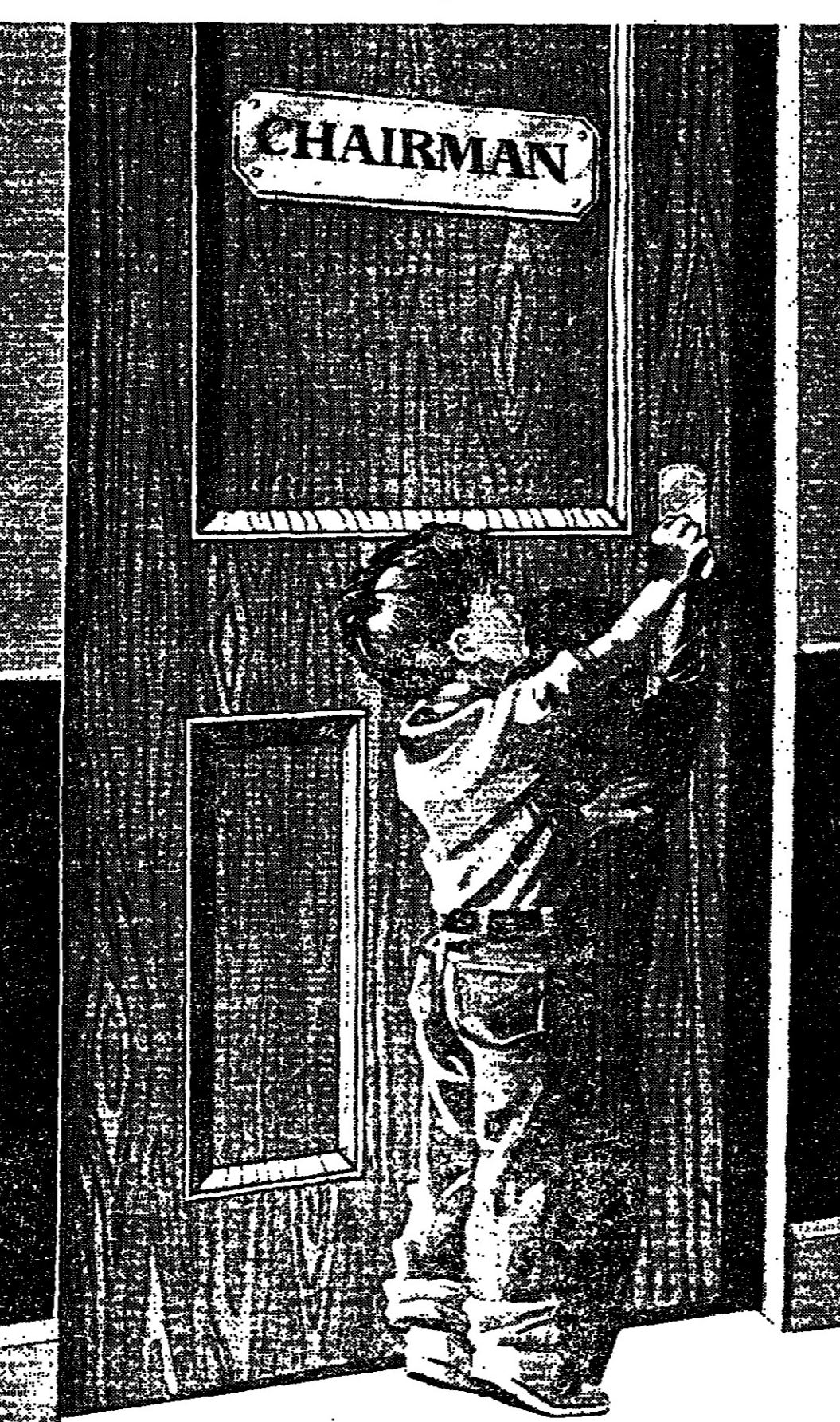
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## When it's time to hand over the reins, will the new man measure up?

Sooner or later, it has to happen.

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Adding value to business

## Buhrmann confident

By Sam Parkhouse

Buhrmann Tetterode, the Dutch paper and packaging group, is confident of winning control of Robert Horne, the family paper group chaired by Sir Kenneth Berrill.

Robert Horne shares have been buoyant since January when Buhrmann approached Mr Kenneth Horne, the main family shareholder. They rose 40p to 41p on Friday, against 25p before the approach.

Sir Kenneth, former chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, has con-

firmed that talks have taken place between the Horne family, which controls 51.3 per cent, and Buhrmann.

Buhrmann said it was hopeful of a successful outcome.

Mr Michael Bairstow, Robert Horne's joint managing director, said: "The discussions are serious ones." But neither he, nor Mr Horne, the president, was prepared to add to the original stance that an approach had been made to the largest shareholder which may lead to a full offer.

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Energy correspondent David Young on the countdown to privatization of power

# It's all systems go

The privatization of the electricity supply industry is the most ambitious in Britain's history, with a price tag estimated at between £15-£20 billion. However, the final figure will be determined by stock market conditions and the economy.

Success seems to be assured. The appetite for shares in former State-owned companies created by the Government now appears limitless.

In addition, the format for privatization has survived early criticism and is now seen by most in the investment community as one which will encourage competition in the next few years. The number of investors who have already made clear their intentions to win a share of the future generating market is testimony to that.

The recently announced foray across the border by Hydro Electric, the former North of Scotland Hydro Electricity Board, into private sector power generation in England illustrates the emergence of a competitive climate which will delight the Government.

Hydro Electric is taking a share of the Thames Power project to build a gas-fired power station in East London. At 1,000 megawatts, it will be the biggest gas-fired station built in Britain. Hydro Electric is already the most experienced operator of gas-fired power stations in Britain by virtue of its successful running of the Peterhead power station. This has involved the company in building, operating and negotiating North Sea gas contracts in an area of power generation that is likely to become dominant in the coming decade.

The company believes the move is an ideal opportunity to break into the market south of the border. Although it has the capacity to sell power in England, its opportunities are limited by the cross-border grid system.

There is considerable doubt within some sectors of the electricity industry about the growth of competition. Some say it will be five to 10 years before meaningful competition develops. Until then, they believe, the two large generators being created from the Central Electricity Generating Board and the 12 area distribution companies based on the existing



## Sale of the century

*John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, gives his views on the changes in the industry*

A new chapter in the history of Britain's electricity industry opens from midnight on Friday when the trading operations of 16 new public limited companies in England and Wales — and three in Scotland — will transform the present structure of the industry as a prelude to the most ambitious privatization ever undertaken.

From that moment, more competition will exist in the electricity industry in this country than anywhere else in the world.

A unique trading system for buying and selling electricity will begin operation for the first time, using a sophisticated computer system to process bids from power stations and to settle the price of electricity on a half-hourly basis.

area electricity boards will continue much as before.

An examination of the shape the industry will be in after next Saturday and comments being made by many of the senior executives who are going to be running these companies indicates that scepticism will soon be replaced by optimism and enthusiasm.

Almost all of the chief executives who will run the new companies have had lengthy experience in the electricity industry, but they are desperately keen to operate their businesses in a true marketplace environment. Some of the manoeuvring to win large-scale industrial contracts should dispel any suggestion that cosy relationships built up over the years will form the basis of business in the future.

Privatization will not only meet the Government's objective of widening and deepening share ownership, it will also offer a chance to change the direction of the electricity supply industry so that it is more responsive to environmental concerns, pro-

motes energy efficiency, offers improved consumer rights and provides more competitive pricing between other fuels.

The framework for privatization of the power industry emerged in the aftermath of the privatization of British Gas and British Telecom.

The movement of British Gas into the private sector achieved the Government's aims of the time — especially the creation of a new type of investor — but it replaced one monopoly with another, creating a problem which is only now being addressed through pressure from the Office of Gas Supply, following a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation.

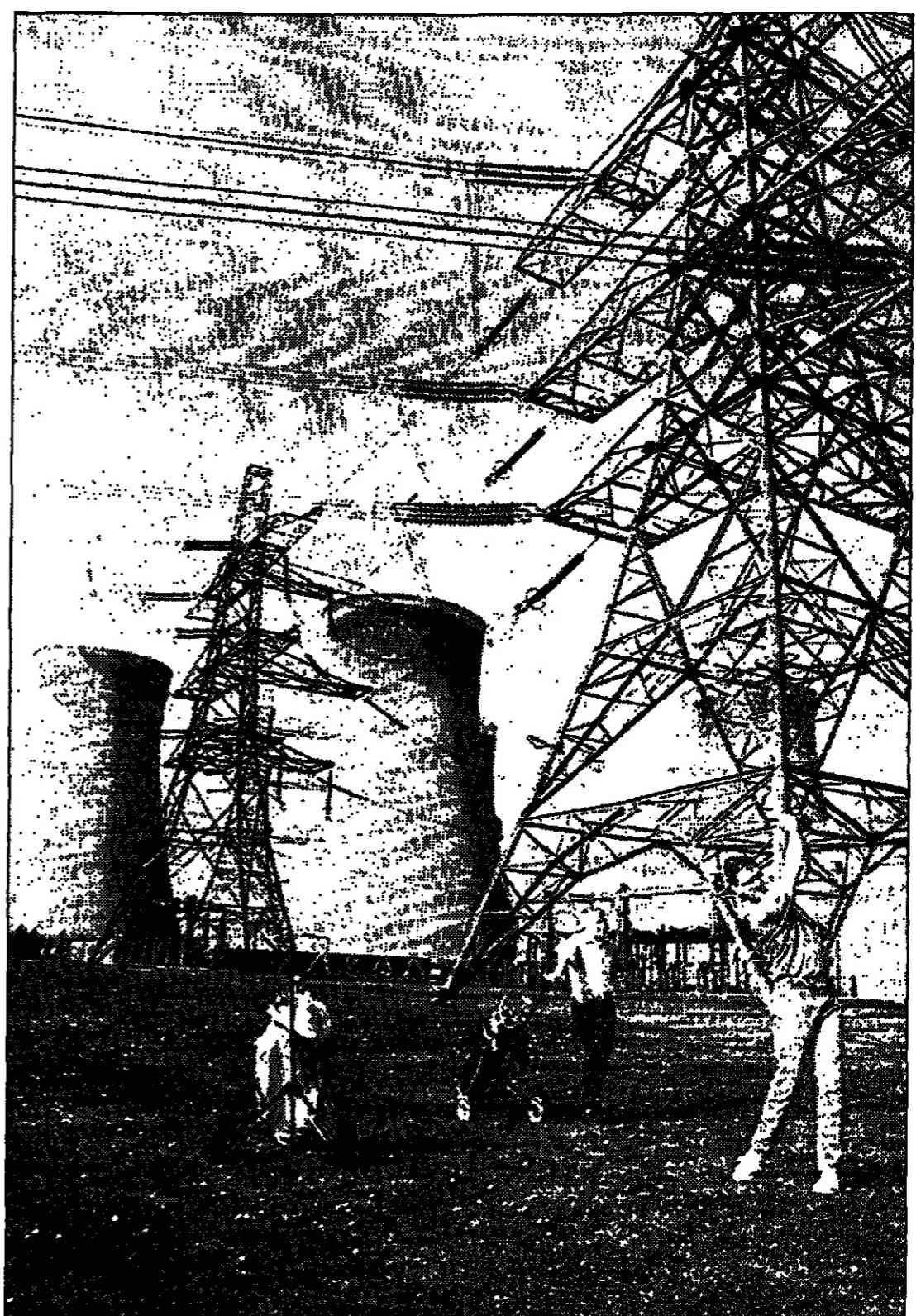
British Telecom moved into the private sector and was immediately affected by a long and bitter labour dispute and the need to re-equip large parts of its network. This created widespread customer dissatisfaction.

As a result, the Government decided that when the electricity supply industry came to the market true competition would be encouraged from the outset. There have been changes on the way. The most notable was the Government's decision to withdraw the network of nuclear power stations from the privatization programme. This was done after it became clear that the cost of nuclear power would be difficult to determine using private-sector accounting procedures.

It was a politically embarrassing decision which also led to the departure of Lord Marshall as chairman-designate of National Power, the larger of the two generators being created.

Behind the rhetoric about Government commitment to nuclear power lies the fact that for the next 10 years at least any new generating capacity will be fuelled by gas or, to a lesser extent, by coal or oil. This will result in a market for bulk gas sales, bulk gas transportation and even "spot" electricity sales, with existing and new generators competing for more business.

The winners in this should be the customers with lower costs and the shareholders in the electricity businesses with growing sales and sound dividends. The Government is hoping customers and shareholders will be one.



Tee break: staff enjoy the workers' mini golf course at Ratcliffe on Soar power station in the Trent Valley

The generating companies; National Power and PowerGen.....	P2	The role of British Coal; a sound future for the mains cable makers.....	P6
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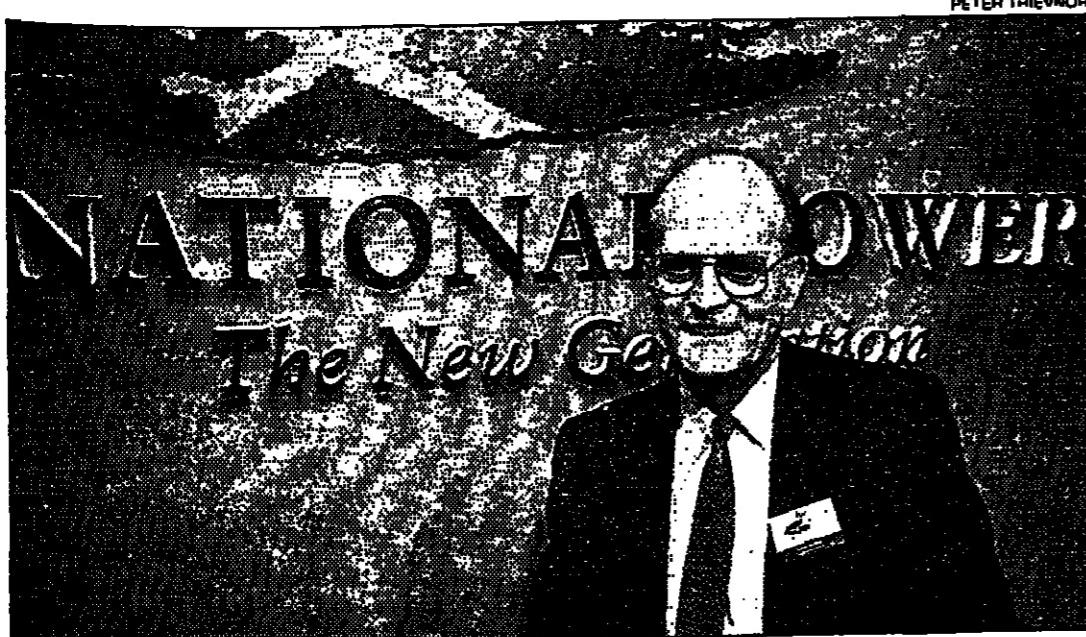
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## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/2

The Central Electricity Generating Board is about to disappear. David Young profiles the two companies that will take its place



The optimistic approach: "We face the coming year with confidence," says John Baker, chief executive



## A giant in the power game

**Salesmen at the two generating companies that will emerge from the Central Electricity Generating Board at the end of the month must feel like tweed-clad lords and ladies waiting for dawn to break over the grouse moors on August 12.**

The reason is that a close season has been declared on direct selling of power to large industrial and commercial users, allowing the industry to concentrate on vesting and the introduction of its new commercial structure. Salesmen will have to wait before pouncing on the companies they have targeted as likely customers.

The pace of negotiations before the three-month "truce" came into effect on March 2 shows that competition is emerging between the two generators and that each will try to show that it is different in what it does and how it does it.

The larger of the two is National Power, which was originally intended to have 70 per cent of the

**'National Power will be among the world's largest companies and the world's largest private user of coal as a primary energy source. Its importance to the British economy cannot be overestimated'**

country's installed generating capacity. Now that the network of nuclear power stations has been taken from its portfolio, to be kept in government ownership, the split is nearer 60-40.

However, National Power will still be among the world's largest companies and will be the world's largest private user of coal as a

primary energy source. Its importance to the British economy cannot be overstated and the role it will play in the new electricity supply industry will be as important as that played by the old CEBG.

The "kit" it inherits includes a range of coal, oil, gas, wind and hydro power stations spread across the country. Last year, these produced £4 billion worth of power. Its coal stations are among the largest in the world, and in the past year five of the seven large-scale, coal-fired power stations in the National Power portfolio broke their own record output levels. The stations will be backed by a network of engineering workshops, research laboratories and a team of scientists conducting research into power production from wind, waves and the sun.

Few serious scientific conferences and seminars in the world do not include in their programme papers and presentations from

men and women working in National Power laboratories and power stations.

Although it has inherited some continuity from its parent, the CEBG, National Power will be vastly different.

The CEBG was probably the best power-generating company of its type in the world. It kept the lights on despite the year-long coal dispute. Its scientific reputation is second to none, but it has worked within safe limits. Those limits have changed for the better and National Power is preparing to meet any new challenges.

The speed with which it has responded to its loss of the nuclear network is a clear indication of how it is moving. National Power has applied for two large gas-fired power stations on Humberside and on the Cambridgeshire border and has already earmarked several other sites for similar power stations. These will be comparatively cheap and quick to build, cheap to run and environmentally "friendly".

The fact that its salesmen secured 23 firm contracts for direct sales of power before the March 2 deadline is also testimony to the aggressive way it will switch from being the inheritor of a monopoly position to a true market-place competitor.

It has warned any generating company thinking about entering the market that it will not easily give up its share.

The contracts, which take effect on April 1, are worth about £200 million. They cover a total of 160 sites, including 13 multi-site contracts, and with loads ranging from one megawatt to 150 megawatts and covering periods from one year to three years. However, the process has not been painless.

Staff have had to be relocated and the decision to leave the nuclear network in the state sector meant some plans for privatization had to be revised.

John Baker, National Power's chief executive, says: "I recognize that the past year has been difficult, but I am sure we can face the coming year with confidence."

"Our job is to manage our power stations efficiently and effectively to provide customers with reliable supplies of electricity and good value for money. I have no doubts we will be able to achieve these objectives."

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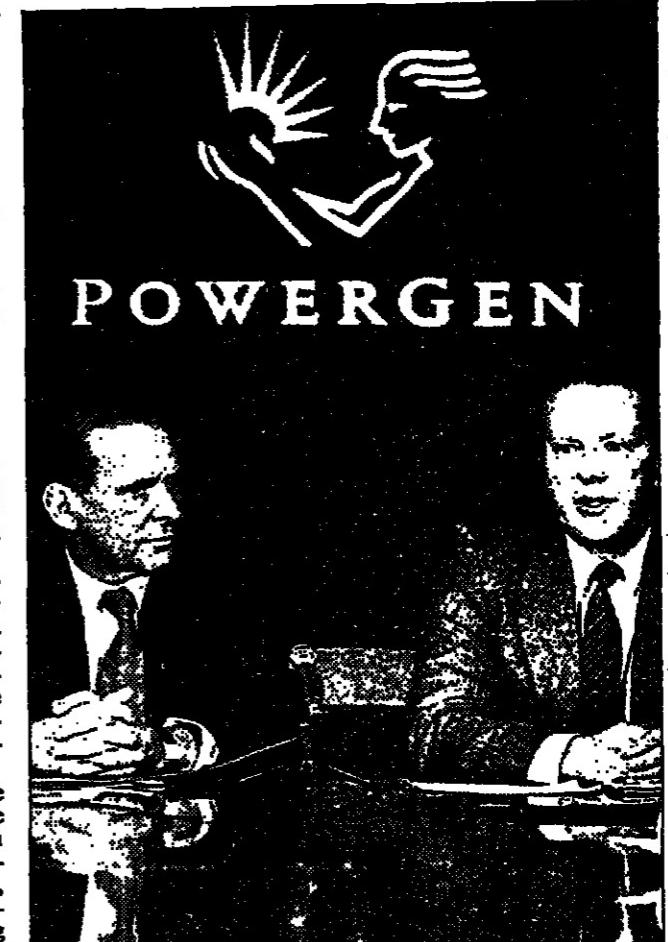
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## Custom built for success in a tough market-place

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PowerGen, the smaller of the two generators to be vested at the end of the month, has introduced a new word to the vocabulary of the energy business: orimulsion.

It has shown an appreciation of the advantages of a strong corporate identity by becoming the first company to sponsor a national television weather map. And it is the first generator to win planning consent for what will be the first of a new breed of highly efficient and environmentally friendly large-scale gas-fired power stations.

It has formed a gas-pipeline company and is now testing what will be the country's largest wind generator, at Richborough, Yorkshire.

Since PowerGen was created by the Act to privatize the electricity supply industry, it has been seeking new opportunities, carving out new markets and behaving like the aggressive private-sector company for which the Government had hoped.

Its decision to become the first power generator in the world to carry out generation trials with orimulsion is typical of the company's approach, led by a chairman from outside the industry who is willing to back the judgement of engineers and scientists he has inherited.

Orimulsion is a new fuel developed by Bitu, a subsidiary of the Venezuelan state oil company, in conjunction with BP.

It is a blend of 70 per cent heavy bitumen oil, which Venezuela has in abundance, and 30 per cent water. The secret is in the way it is emulsified so that hydrocarbons remain in suspension and can be pumped directly into the furnaces of existing power stations once the burners have been modified.

If orimulsion is a success, PowerGen will have gained for itself first access to a new fuel that can undercut conventional heavy fuel oil on cost and which will also be cheaper than coal.

Initial results of trials on Merseyside have been encouraging, and further tests are now being carried out and will be evaluated. A million tonnes of orimulsion will be burned during 1991 alone.

PowerGen became the first generator to win a direct sale contract for power with a large industrial user when it won a £50 million contract to provide infrastructure and power for a 10-year period for the planned Toyota car factory in Derbyshire. PowerGen will provide Toyota with 40 megawatts of power and will build a sub-station and a half-mile link to the National Grid. The winning of the contract has

been a considerable coup, both in terms of earnings and prestige, for PowerGen. The company has also become the first generator to enter into a joint venture to build its own pipeline to carry natural gas from the North Sea terminal in Lincolnshire to its new gas-fired combined-cycle power station at Killingholme, Humberside.

It has formed a joint company with Conoco to build and operate the 50km pipeline and is considering using the pipeline to offer gas supplies directly from the Conoco North Sea fields to industrial users on Humberside, the North-west and in the Midlands, many of which will be customers for power from the PowerGen network of stations.

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive - the company is chaired by Robert Malpas, formerly a main board director of BP - says: "Competition has already arrived on the UK electricity scene, and there is a strong determination to ensure it is developed to its full potential."

"Don't be fooled by the cynics who say it will never happen. Privatization has already unleashed competitive forces, which are sweeping through every aspect of our business. There really is no going back now. The past months

have seen radical changes in the dynamics of the industry. We are all well on the way to creating a commodity market in electricity, and at PowerGen we have custom-built our new company to succeed in that market."

"We believe there are some clear advantages in being a business fresh off the drawing board - a company custom-built for the new market-place of the 1990s, one that has as its aim to be the lowest-cost producer of electricity, and which, after flotation, will be one of the largest privately owned generating companies in the world."

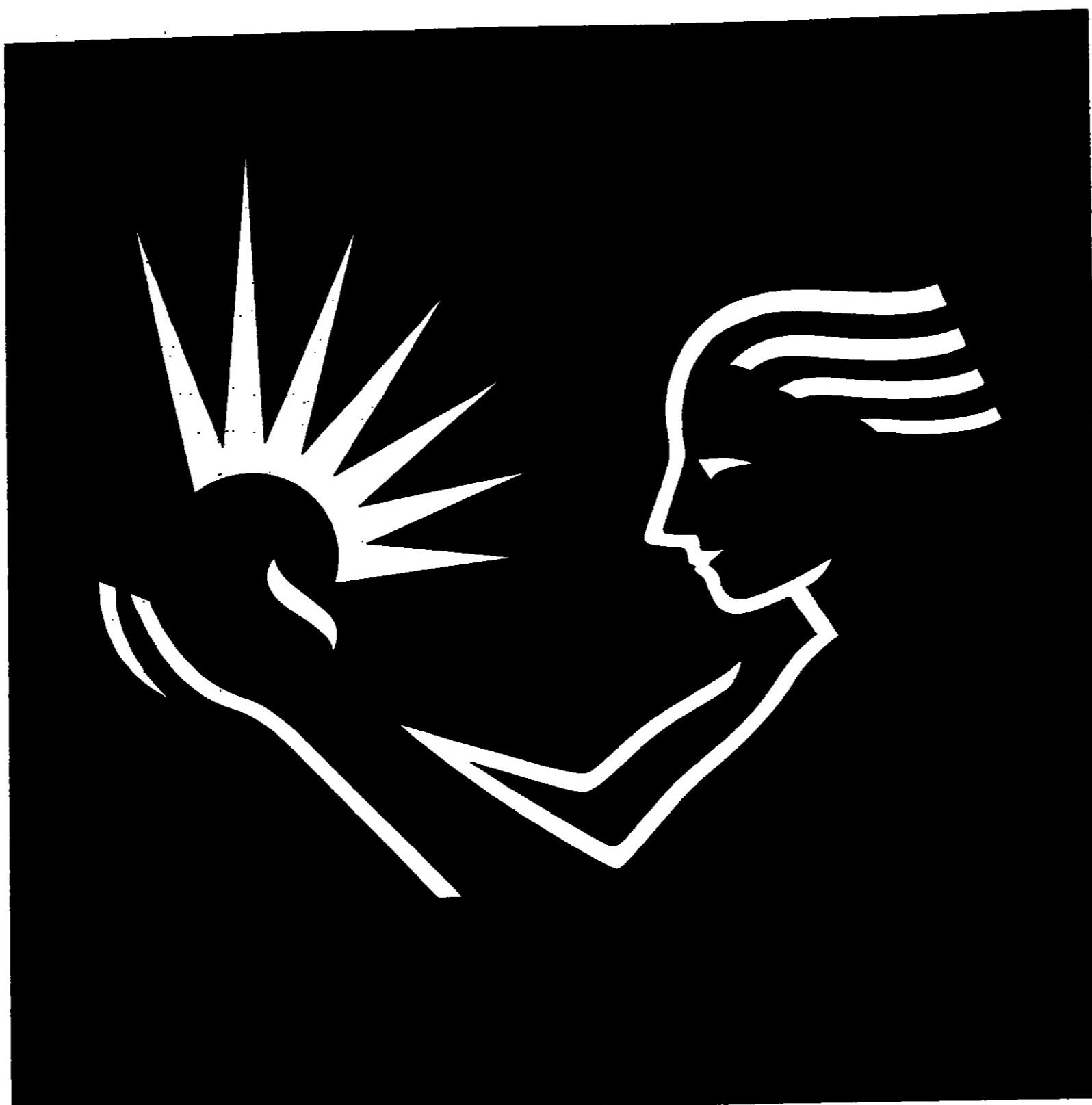
"We have the experience ... to instil confidence in those we supply. We have that paradoxical advantage of proven capability demonstrated in years of generation experience allied to the flexibility and enthusiasm of making a fresh start."

"We have also had a golden opportunity to build PowerGen from scratch in terms of getting our organizational structure right for the task that is in hand."

"Our management structure has been designed to eliminate unnecessary intermediate layers, to ensure short lines of communication and to promote high levels of individual responsibility."

"Motivation is high and there is a common will to make PowerGen a winner."





# THE FUTURE GENERATION.

Although still in its infancy, PowerGen already produces nearly a third of the electricity for England and Wales.

However, we are also looking to the future to help shape a new kind of power industry.

For example, we've just started to build a new energy efficient power station at Killingholme, South Humberside.

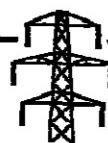
We've also agreed to purchase the entire output of

a North Sea gas field, Pickerill.

In August of 1989, we started work on a new technology centre at Ratcliffe, Nottinghamshire.

Above all, through the use of innovative ideas, we're looking at new ways of producing safe and efficient energy for the future. Not just for us but for our children and our children's children.

## POWERGEN



## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/5

# The wheels of fortune

**C**ompetition in the electricity supply industry has been maintained, despite a spate of mergers and co-operative agreements. The shelving of large projects has not resulted in a shortage of work.

Two factors have affected demand. The Government has decided not to proceed with more nuclear power stations and generating companies have dropped the idea of building more large coal-fired stations.

The decisions have already cost jobs. GEC-Alsthom has retrenched 210 employees at Lark and 20 employees in a design office in Manchester. GEC had hoped to win orders for turbine generators and heat exchangers in three new nuclear power stations. A further loss was the cancellation of plans for three coal-fired stations. GEC-Alsthom had won equipment design contracts for all three. The cancellations are a blow to British companies facing increasing foreign competition. Equipment for big power stations in the UK has been supplied in the past by British companies, such as GEC, NEI and Babcock.

The result of the change in policy will be the refurbishing of existing power stations and the building of smaller, gas-fired plants. NEI believes the coal and nuclear programmes have been shelved, rather than scrapped, but

**Bigger companies will build smaller power stations in the 1990s, says Rodney Hobson**

it is among companies already cashing in on the refurbishing programme. This involves fitting more efficient blades to existing turbines and nitrogen oxide burners to boilers to curb pollution. GEC and Babcock, the boiler-makers, are also involved in the refurbishing programme.

"Existing stations will have to work much harder to produce the same amount of electricity," says Sash Tusa, an analyst at the stockbroking firm Flemings, says.

The future, at least in the short-term, lies with gas-powered, combined-cycle stations. Combined cycle uses heat from gas turbines to drive steam turbines with, typically, two gas turbines to one steam.

A module of three turbines is likely to generate 350 megawatts, compared with 900 megawatts from a single unit proposed in one of the shelved coal-fired stations.

Gas turbines are expensive to run unless they are in constant operation. That means fixing up supplies of gas and pre-selling up.

Three new gas power stations have been announced. PowerGen, the smaller of the two generating companies being spun off from

Central Electricity Generating Board, will build one at Killingholme, south Humberside; ICI will construct one on Teeside; and Asea Brown Boveri, the Swedish-Swiss combine, will erect the third for Lakeland Power.

There have been dramatic changes among power station builders. Fiercely independent companies operating within national boundaries have disappeared or set up joint ventures.

GEC joined Alsthom in 1988, and the Anglo-French power engineering group this year brought in the enormous US company GE, which is seeking a powerful role in Europe, to form the European Gas Turbine Company. GE dominates the world gas-turbine industry and has taken a 10 per cent stake in the European venture.

It has a workforce of almost 4,000 people, split between Britain and France, and its operations will include heavy-duty gas turbines manufactured at two Alsthom plants in France.

NEI was taken over by Rolls-Royce last year after earlier merger talks failed. The combined group set up a joint venture, NEI ABB Gas Turbines, at the end of last

year with ABB, itself formed by Asea and Brown Boveri.

So far, Siemens, of West Germany, has preferred to stand alone while Mitsubishi of Japan, which sells gas turbines to NEI, has refrained from entering the European market directly.

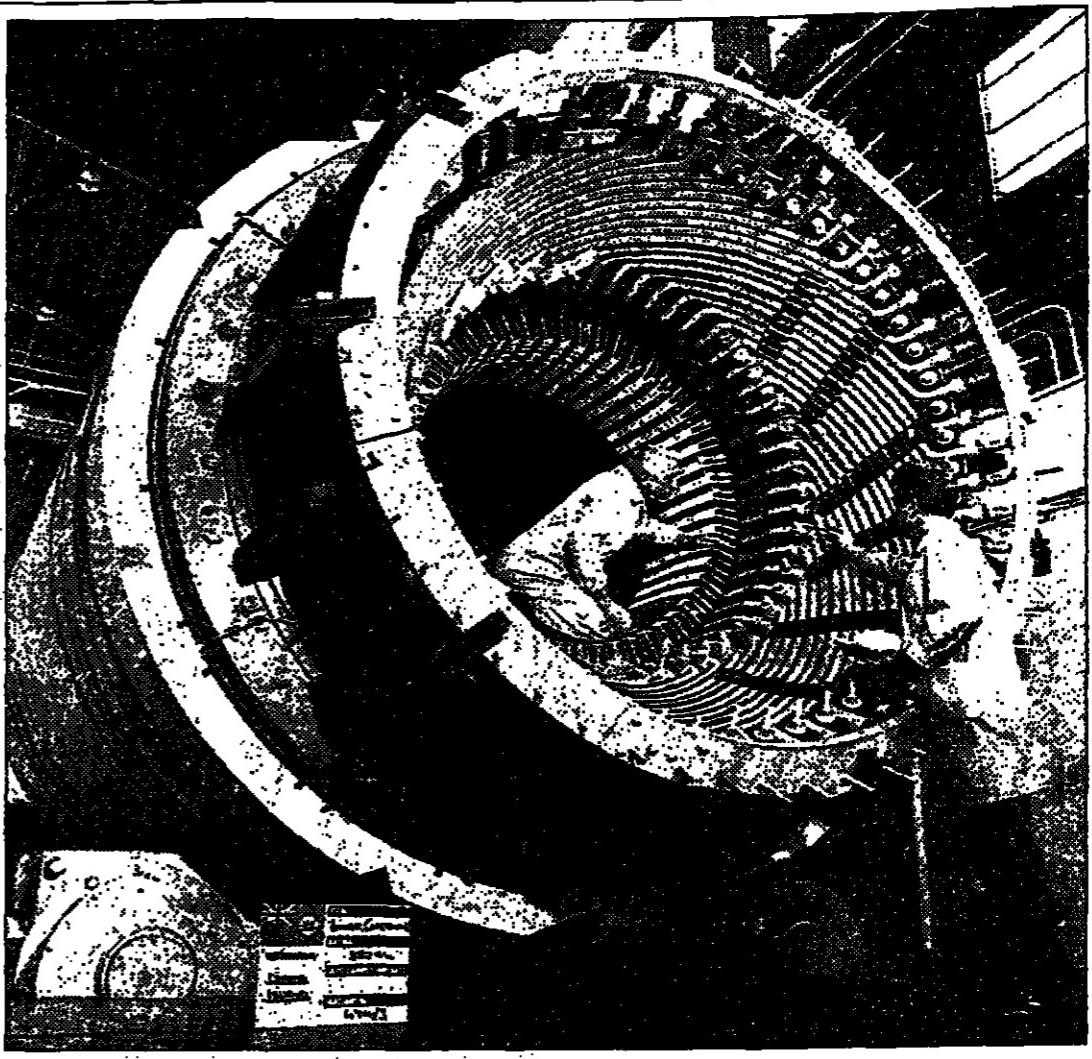
Among the losers is the Italian power industry, which has been divided up along with Belgium's main equipment supplier. The influence of AEG and Westinghouse, second-placed in Germany and the US respectively, have waned in the face of competition from the market leaders in their own countries. Independent suppliers in Norway and Finland have been absorbed.

Reasons for the rationalization include a fall in world export markets, rapidly rising costs of developing new equipment, the growing importance of gas turbines and the approach of the single European market.

First blood in the British market

has gone to Siemens, which beat three British tenders for the £300 million contract to build a gas-fired power station at Killingholme. GEC, NEI and John Brown, part of the Trafalgar House group, were beaten on price.

National Power, the larger generating company, has invited tenders for several sites, including another at Killingholme, but no decision has yet been taken.



Inside story: NEI Parsons' generator stator is destined for the Lamma Island power station in Hong Kong

## Public role for private sector

In the 30 years since the Electricity Council, the industry watchdog, was established, the number of electricity consumers has risen by 50 per cent, sales have more than doubled, output has trebled and productivity increased fourfold.

Next week, the Electricity Council, under the privatization proposals, will no longer exist. In its place will be the Electricity Association, a trade organization born of its statutory powers to oversee investment plans, scrutinize pro-



In charge: Roger Farrance

posals for tariff increases and protect consumer rights.

These will pass to the new Office of Electricity Regulation.

But the Electricity Association, with a staff of 800, will have an important role to play in the development of the electricity supply industry in the private sector. It will provide a forum for members to discuss matters of common interest, supply a collective voice for the industry and specialist research and professional services for member companies.

Those members will include all the generating companies and distribution companies in the United Kingdom, plus Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear, which will remain in the public sector. Discussions on associate membership are taking place with the Republic of Ireland's Electricity Supply Board and the supply boards of Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man. Associate mem-

bership will also be open to independent generators.

The Electricity Association will be responsible for pensions within the industry, health and safety and industrial relations. National pay bargaining may be one of the casualties of privatization — company pay structures are likely to head the agenda when the industry settles down.

But the association will represent members when the interests of the industry are involved.

The Research and Development Centre at Capenhurst, near Chester in Cheshire, which develops improved methods of electricity use and distribution, also comes under the association's wing. The work at Capenhurst has had a long and successful association with the Power for Efficiency and Productivity

board, which is now part of the Electricity Association.

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Michael Hatfield.

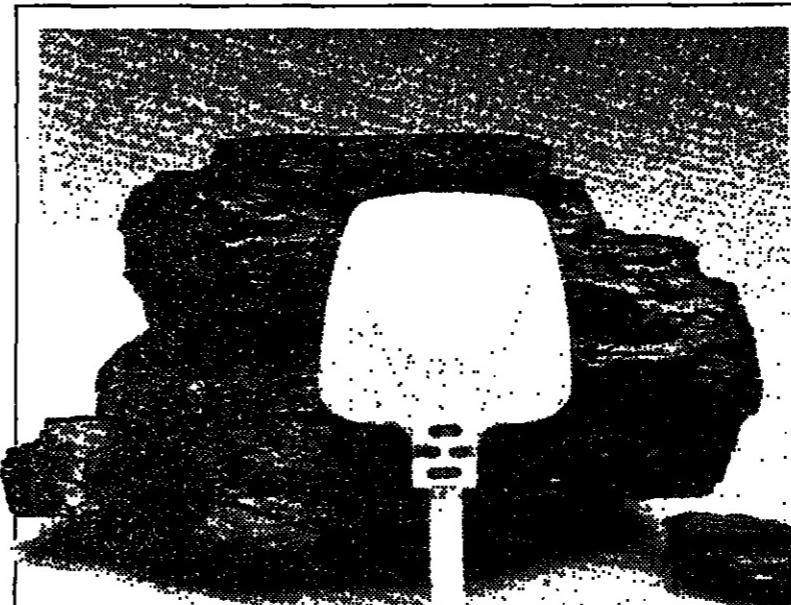


Safety task: James Porteous

commercial and economic reporting and load research. It will also provide technical support for members.

Michael Hatfield.

## CLEAN LIVING FROM COAL.



IT LIGHTS UP YOUR DAY.

IT MAKES YOUR MORNING TEA.

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IT WASHES YOUR CLOTHES.

IT RUNS YOUR COMPUTER.

IT CHILLS YOUR DRINK.

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We turn on the lights. We make the toast, boil a kettle or watch TV. Each day and night we have instant, invisible power at our fingertips. We hardly think about it.

And if we take electricity for granted, do we ever think at all about the fuel that provides most of it?

Maybe we should.

You'd be surprised just how much cleaner coal burning is today.

The latest coal-fired power stations throughout the world aren't just more efficient, they can eliminate 90% of sulphur emissions. An extensive programme of installing this technology (called flue gas desulphurisation) in British power stations has now started.

World-wide, coal-fired power stations contribute only about 7% to greenhouse gases, while generating at least 40% of the world's electricity supply (both figures are from OECD statistics).

In Britain coal produces over three quarters of our electricity.

Advances in combustion technology are impressive, promising us 20% more electricity from the same amount of coal, reducing emissions still further.

The recent interim deal with the generators means British Coal will absorb all normal inflation, continuing to cut the real cost of coal to power stations over the next three years. Looking further ahead, long term contracts between British Coal and the electricity industry would guarantee prices well into the future.

All of which means that modern coal will be able to generate electricity safely, cheaply and more cleanly for years to come.

For more information write to British Coal Marketing Department, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London, SW1X 7AE, or ring 01-235 2020.

WAKE UP TO THE  
NEW AGE OF



# Why coal is still king

**Michael Hatfield**  
reports on  
developments to  
reduce sulphur  
dioxide emissions

The fight to control air pollution and the future of independent electricity producers have been thrown into doubt by privatization of the electricity industry. Mine workers believe that the future of the coal industry could be called into question.

These concerns are being expressed privately by British Coal's management and publicly by independent producers as John Wakeham, the Secretary of State for Energy, struggles to meet the timetable for privatization.

An issue for the coal industry is the planned installation at large power stations of flue-gas desulfurization equipment — which scrubs acid rain gases from oil and coal combustion — to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions.

Mr Wakeham has told the Commons that the Government will meet the EC's directive to reduce sulphur emissions by 60 per cent by 2003 "in the most sensible and practical manner".

This could mean greater use of imported low-sulphur coal and natural gas in power stations, which would reduce sulphur dioxide emissions, help control emissions of carbon dioxide and reduce global warming.

But Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal, believes the use of imported low-sulphur coal is not a realistic long-term option. He says low-sulphur coal is expensive because of its popularity in the United States.

Sir Robert says flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) offers the flexibility needed to use Britain's power stations and coal reserves to their greatest advantage without compromising the energy industry's commitment to a cleaner environment. A plant is already being installed at Drax Power Station, but that is only one-third of the £1.5 billion FGD programme planned to meet the Government's 60 per cent target.

The coal industry believes it could be the victim of a short-term outlook on the part of the Government. Roy Lynd, president of the Midlands-based Union of Democratic Mineworkers, has urged the Government to press ahead with FGD installation at up to six coal-fired power stations.

He has warned that jobs could



be at risk and Britain could be held to ransom because of scarce low-sulphur coal supplies if FGD plants are not installed quickly.

"Imports of low-sulphur coal can only buy a little time — they cannot solve the long-term problem," he says.

A similar point is made by John Meads, general secretary of the British Association of Colliery Management. "There is no guarantee that low-sulphur coal will be readily available on the world markets by the mid-Nineties at reasonable prices," he says.

The Coal Board is ready to build its own power station, at Bilshope Colliery, Nottinghamshire, in conjunction with the East Midlands Electricity Board. Re-

sults of a study into the £100-million project are expected within two months.

The Coal Board believes the project will benefit consumers and the environment. Costs will be reduced because there will be no transportation involved, meaning cheaper electricity. The station will use modern fluidized-bed technology, which almost ends sulphur dioxide emissions.

Sir Robert says the solution to enormous and uneven economic dislocation lies in cleaner and more efficient use of coal in power stations, not only in the UK, but worldwide.

If the efficiency with which British Coal can be used is not maximized, it will lose business to

fuels which are more efficient and easier to handle.

A "topping cycle" with fluidized combustion being developed at Grimsby in Yorkshire — a £26-million project funded by private and public money — promises to be 20 per cent more efficient than conventional technology. Equally importantly, it will reduce carbon monoxide emissions significantly.

But the future of independent producers is far from certain. "Privatization was supposed to bring about greater competition, but this has been sacrificed by the politicians' sole objective of getting the industry floated," says Stephen Andrews, director of the Association of Independent Electricity Producers.

Rather than "freeing up" the market, independent producers say severe restrictions are being placed on their operations during the transition period. They are obliged to sell electricity at a higher price than the large generating companies. Moreover, Mr Andrews says, "horse trading" by the electricity boards has given them exclusive rights over industrial and commercial sites of up to one megawatt, and resulted in National Power and PowerGen being given long-term contracts.

"In itself, this does not spell the end for independent power, but it is ironic that the boards, which had massive advantages over independents, should have sought special privileges of this kind."

Privatization means big business for mains cable makers

Competition among electricity generating companies offers expanding business prospects for mains cable makers. Opinions are divided, however, on whether the future will be quite so rosy for British companies as they would wish.

Bill Watson, director of engineering at Eastern Electricity, explains that the demand for cables will depend on four factors:

He believes that one positive aspect of privatization will be the resulting competition. He says: "New entrants to power generation will mean greater competition and the combined cycle plants will bring greater efficiency, so there is scope for optimism."

A negative factor is the new provisions allowing companies outside the electricity industry to generate power for their own use. Although that would create some demand for low-voltage cables, the distances involved would be very short and not enough to compensate for resulting cuts in demand from area electricity boards.

The two imponderables are how the national economy will perform and the extent to which deregulation in Europe will encourage competition from imports, which, at present, add up to no more than 15 per cent of the supply of mains cables in Britain.

Market leader BICC has no doubts that the future is exciting. "Business is likely to increase as all boards will be looking at refurbishing their systems," Mary Gallagher, a BICC spokeswoman, says.

Rival Delta, the cable making firm, agrees. "Sales to area boards have held up very well and are likely to for some time," says press officer Alexandra Hockenbush.

Sash Tusa, an analyst with Flemings, is a self-confessed cynic when it comes to post privatization spending. He says: "There has been an awful lot of hype about privatization. There seems to be a lot of pre-privatization spending and that has been good for cable companies but it may not extend beyond privatization."

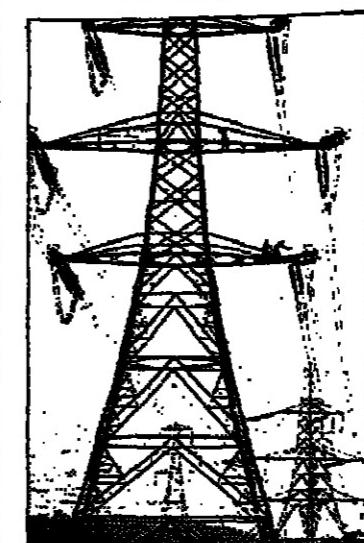
He points out that British Gas and British Telecom were not inclined to spend taxpayers' money rather than that of shareholders and adds: "Spending volumes are very high this year. It is hard to see why they should be higher next year when companies have got to choose between laying cables and paying higher dividends."

Mr Tusa says that some cable makers who have had a cosy relationship with the old Central Electricity Generating Board and the area distribution boards could be in for a shock. The market has been virtually free from competition from imports and some makers could be in for a tough time.

He cites Pirelli, working on poor profit margins, as most likely to suffer. In contrast, BICC is better placed with some good long-term contracts.

BICC has, in fact, sought to secure its position further by

## Links to the new power base



Cables: exciting prospects ahead

buying Sterling Greengate, a power station that has run into trouble on the monopolies front.

Sterling, a UK cable maker, cost £38.2 million to acquire from a US electronics group in December. It makes armoured cables and elastomeric ones that are sheathed in rubber and are used in difficult environments where flexibility is important.

The merger gives BICC about 33 per cent of the £185 million mains cables market in the UK, taking the market lead away from Delta, a point not lost on the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Ridley, who this month referred the acquisition to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The UK's area electricity boards, unlike their counterparts on the Continent, prefer to use the more expensive and more robust aluminium-armoured cables made by UK companies.

The Commission is also likely to look at BICC's 25 per cent share of the £70 million PVC-armoured cable market and its 33 per cent share of the UK market in elastomeric cables.

Among analysts, Mr Sandy Morris of County NatWest puts the optimistic view. He sees BICC as benefiting from increased demand for high tension cables and BICC and Delta gaining in low voltage cables.

He says: "There has been talk for some time of a £100 million programme to strengthen the national grid. If power stations in the North and Midlands can transmit to the South it would make what is already there more efficient and save building more power stations."

In addition, the removal of capital spending limits post-privatization will free up area electricity boards and increase the demand for cables.

Mr Morris believes that domestic cable makers have little to fear from foreign competition. He says: "BICC and Delta are two of the lowest cost producers in the world and the weakness of sterling makes it even more difficult for competitors to break in."

**Rodney Hobson**  
DUNCAN BARTER

Lining up: but will deregulation threaten the British cable-making firms' chances at business development?

# Nuclear Electric. Meeting the future challenge.

As generators of almost 20 per cent of the electricity needs of England and Wales, we in Nuclear Electric plc have a vital role to play in meeting Britain's electricity needs, both now and in the future.

We are inheriting the Central Electricity Generating Board's nuclear assets and resources and are a separate, Government owned company.

We will be working to increase output from our stations and drive down their costs so as to establish Nuclear Electric plc as a competitive generating force in the public sector.

Safety remains our first priority.

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Nuclear power is a key element in providing diversity of electricity supply. It is also helping to limit the greenhouse effect.

We are proud of our highly skilled workforce and with our fine tradition of technological achievement, we are confident we can meet the challenges which we face.

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## FOCUS

ELECTRICITY  
PRIVATIZATION/7

# Trying to catch the wind

**F**or a nation buffeted by waves and winds, Britain still treats alternative sources of energy as the Cinderella of the electricity industry.

Privatization will enhance the prospects for renewable energy sources, says Jean Ross, a Department of Energy spokeswoman. The department has indicated that a minimum amount of energy will have to be generated from renewable resources, although the precise percentage has not yet been set. However, the department hopes that alternative energy sources will provide 600 megawatts by the year 2000.

Ross rejects suggestions that the Government has failed to fund research into alternative energy sources and points out that £145 million has been spent in the past 12 years, with a further £50 million earmarked for the next three years. "There is an ongoing commitment, but you have to bear in mind that there has to be different spending on research into different technologies. Nuclear power was obviously going to cost more. In the early stages, it was not known which renewable resource was the most promising, so we undertook research across the board."

The department has received 300 applications from would-be power-generating companies. Projects must be approved by the department before being put to local electricity boards.

Most proposals involve wind power and fuels produced from waste. However, the biggest is for a tidal barrage across the Mersey, backed by a consortium of more than 20 companies, which will

**Alternative energy advocates are fighting an uphill battle in Britain. But private companies, eager to cash in on power, may change all that**

generate 700 megawatts. The Mersey Barrage Company, which wants to begin construction in three to four years' time, says the scheme will cost £280 million. It is expected to save 750,000 tons of coal a year and barrages could eventually produce 20 per cent of the nation's electricity requirements.

Yet wave power is already a reality in Britain. A power station on the south-west coast of Islay will start operation this year and is expected to show that wave power can be as cheap as hydro-electricity. The project, supported by the Department of Energy, will be used to test components to be used in the development of larger installations which could feed the National Grid. It will provide enough electricity for a village of 4,000 people.

However, it is wind power that tops the Department of Energy's (DoE) list of promising sources of renewable power. Government, private industry, the Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB) and the area boards spent about £10.5 million this year on research, development and build-

ing, and the figure is expected to rise to £18 million this year. Some funding has come from the European Commission.

Electricity production from 14 turbines around the country is between five and 10 megawatts a year, depending on weather conditions, CEBG officials calculate. By 2000 to 2005, wind power is expected to supply one per cent of the country's energy needs, or the equivalent of a million tons of coal. However, official studies indicate that if all the sites capable of generating wind power in the UK were harnessed both on and offshore, this source of power could supply 20 per cent of the country's electricity demands in 30 years.

Experts believe that if environmental concerns were shelved and wind turbines could be built in National Parks and marine nature reserves, then its potential would rise even further.

The DoE is spending £1.5 million this year on research and development of solar energy.

The Government believes heat and light from the sun offer some

of the best options for harnessing renewable resources, although studies in the 1970s convinced the DoE that photovoltaics, the direct conversion of sunlight into electricity, would be uneconomic in Britain in the foreseeable future. However, costs would have to fall dramatically to make solar cells and solar panels cost-effective, compared with other generation systems.

Most scientists working in the field are now concentrating on passive solar, where the sun's energy is absorbed on cold days, but rejected on warm days. It is the subject of several projects at polytechnics, universities and Government research centres across the UK. Passive solar heating has recently been installed at student residences at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, housing projects in Milton Keynes, offices at Basingstoke and a new school at Netley in Hampshire.

The technology works even on cloudy days and, by harnessing computers to control features such as window blinds and to calculate local weather conditions,

further savings can be made. Energy consumption in buildings accounts for 45 per cent of primary energy used in Britain and costs £13,000 million. The DoE is convinced that the widespread use of passive solar in the building industry could cut this figure by as much as £230 million by 2025.

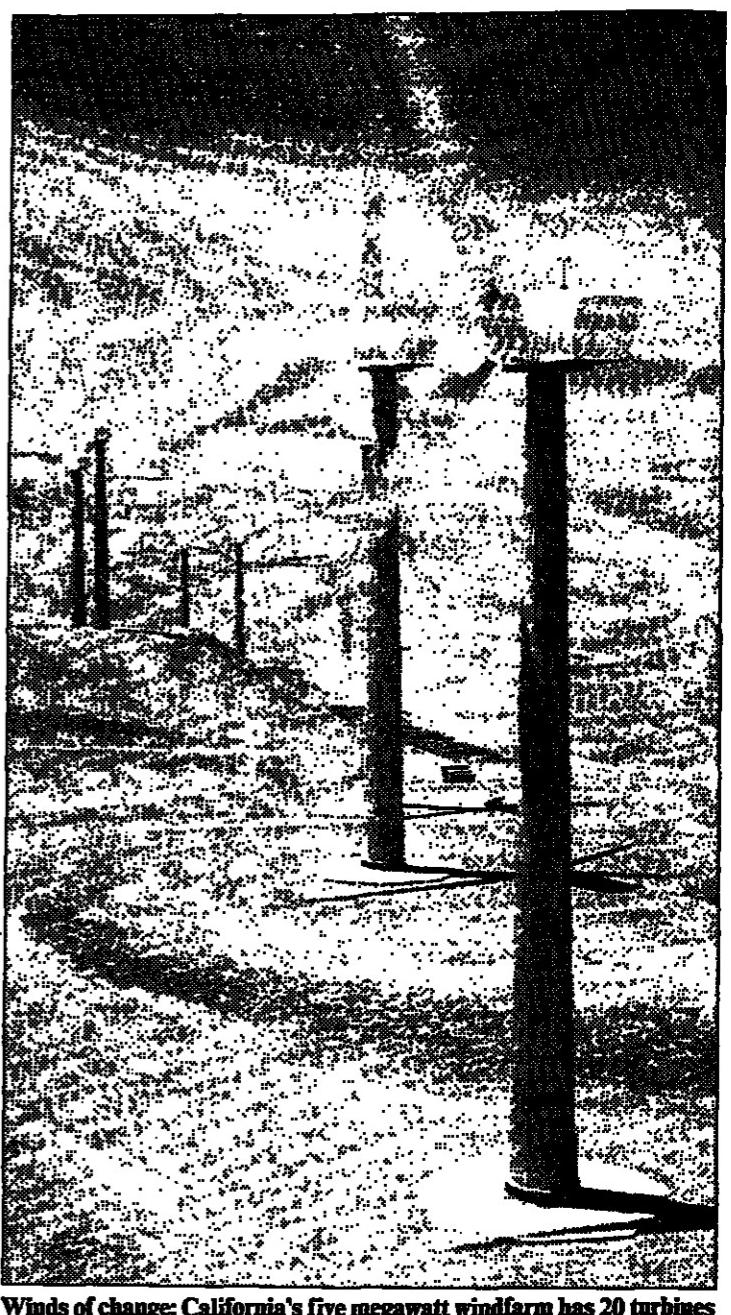
Power generation from fermenting, burning and reprocessing straw, plastics, rotting rubbish in landfills, animal manure and wood chippings could provide the equivalent of four million tonnes of coal a year at today's fuel prices.

Methane from land-fill gas is now providing the equivalent of 120,000 tonnes of coal and Government estimates put its contribution at 400,000 tonnes in five years' time. However, Government-backed programmes to use bacteria to turn animal wastes into biogas have been cancelled on cost grounds.

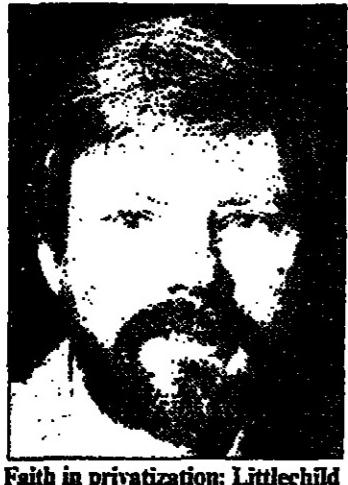
During the past 10 years, funding has gone into studying the possibilities of extracting energy from hot springs and underground rock. Much of the work is centred at the Camborne School of Mines in Cornwall. Other possible areas include Wearn Dale in the North east, the Lake District and the East Highlands of Scotland. If pilot plant studies set for the 1990s bear fruit, hot rocks could meet 10 per cent of the country's energy needs for 125 years.

The DoE believes energy from aquifers would account for only 300,000 tonnes of coal a year, so this area of study is unlikely to be developed further.

Rodney Hobson  
and Nick Nuttall



Winds of change: California's five megawatt windfarm has 20 turbines



Faith in privatization: Littlechild

**A** man who will have a key role in ensuring the privatized electricity industry functions in a competitive, efficient manner will have his own views put to the test: Stephen Littlechild, director general of Electricity Supply, wrote a book more than a decade ago on the failings of the mixed economy (*Michael Hatfield writes*).

From his office in Birmingham, a city where he was previously head of the University's Department of Industrial Economics and Business Studies, Professor Littlechild, will run the Independent Office of Electricity Regulation, charged with promoting competition, protecting the interest of

the consumers and regulating the industry.

Professor Littlechild, 46, pins his faith on privatization. He will be responsible for the price control formulae which will govern supply and transmission.

He will also promote efficient use of electricity, and set standards of energy efficiency for public electricity companies. His responsibilities cover consumer protection and representation and meter reading. Professor Littlechild says that if a consumer has a complaint

about meter reading or inspection and does not get satisfaction from the distribution company, he or she can complain to one of the office's regional consumer committees.

The 16 regional committees replace the industry's consultative councils, but they will have more teeth. While the consultative councils were purely advisory, the Littlechild committees have statutory powers to enforce their decisions.

Committee members have been drawn, in part, from the old

councils, but Professor Littlechild has also been keen to attract new blood and expertise.

The consumer protection role involves setting individual standards of service for tariff customers and deciding compensation levels imposed for any breaches.

The office will also lay down performance standards for public electricity suppliers and scrutinize and give approval to codes of practice on the payment of bills, on special services for the elderly

and disabled, and will offer guidance in the efficient use of electricity.

The regulatory role of the office covers many areas, including the granting of licences to new entrants into the industry. Licences for companies succeeding existing boards are granted by the Secretary of State for Energy. The office will also enforce licence conditions, including the operation of price control formulae covering transmission and supply of electricity, as well as modifica-

## Position of power with new responsibilities

**P**utting power in its place

*Another page in the book of Pirelli U.K. successes.*

**1,000,000m of 11kV elastomer cable supplied**

Pirelli General have now supplied over one million metres of single core, PIRELLI 'wet design' E.E.B. insulated 11kV cable. The E.E.B. are the first board to change completely from traditional 'paper insulated cables' to these 'elastomer cables' which are easier to install because of the absence of a metallic sheath, and the availability of simplified joining methods.

**Official opening of Pirelli's submarine power link to the Scilly Isles**

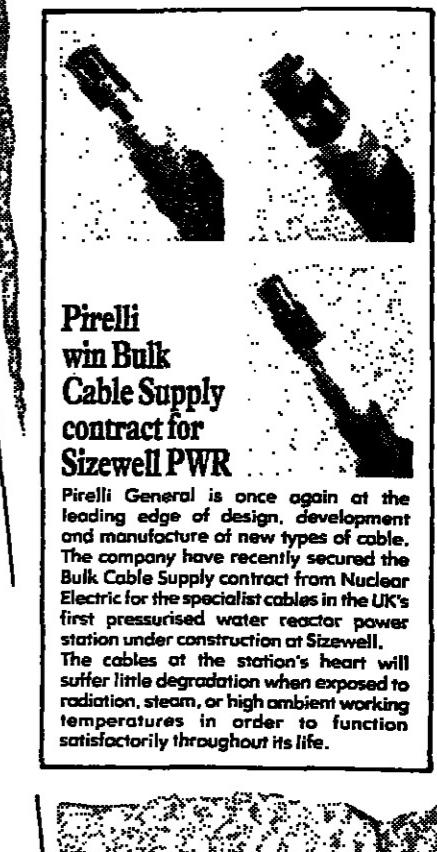
In 1988 Pirelli manufactured a continuous 60km length of submarine power cable to link Cornwall to the Isles of Scilly. The armoured, three core, 33kV cable was insulated with PIRELLI 'wet design' E.P.R. providing long lasting electrical performance without any sort of metallic sheath. This cable link was officially opened this year by HRH The Prince of Wales.

**Pirelli win Bulk Cable Supply contract for Sizewell PWR**

Pirelli General is once again at the leading edge of design, development and manufacture of new types of cable. The company have recently secured the Bulk Cable Supply contract from Nuclear Electric for the specialist cables in the UK's first pressurised water reactor power station under construction at Sizewell. The cables at the station's heart will suffer little degradation when exposed to radiation, steam, or high ambient working temperatures in order to function satisfactorily throughout its life.

**Pirelli 400kV cables at Torness**

This year saw the opening of the South of Scotland Electricity Board's new power station at Torness, which is linked to the grid system via 26km of Pirelli General's 400kV oil-filled cables.



**PIRELLI GENERAL**

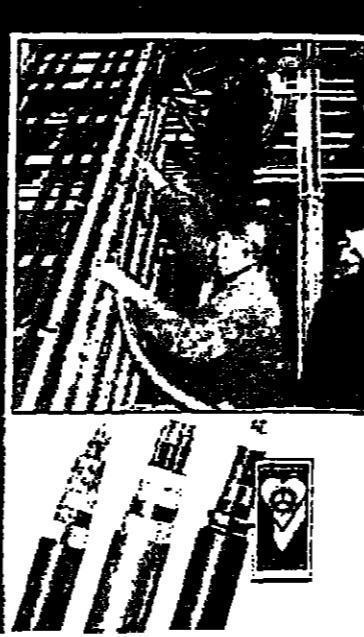
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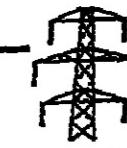
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# Nuclear to maintain a vital role

**David Young reports on the revitalization of the nuclear power industry, which is staying in public ownership**

The vesting of the two generators, 12 area boards and the grid company at the end of this month, coupled with the considerable publicity surrounding the Government's decision to keep the nuclear network in the State sector, has led many to write off nuclear power.

Yet nuclear power will still play an important part in Britain's energy market for years to come—it will provide about 17 per cent of daily base-load power and it should not be forgotten that the electricity that comes from the two power stations across the Channel is nuclear-generated.

Nuclear Electric, the company set up by the Government to run the nuclear network, will also be vested with PLC status at the end of the month and could be floated on the stock market when the economic and political climate is right. In the meantime, Nuclear Electric will operate just like the other privatized companies.

John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, says: "None of this means there is any question of this Government having aban-

doned nuclear power. On the contrary, the decision to keep the nuclear capacity within the public sector and to complete Sizewell B has clearly served to preserve the nuclear option, and nuclear power will continue to provide a substantial amount of the nation's electricity during the 1990s."

"It will also still play an important role in maintaining diversity and security, while growing concern about global warming could yet force changes in relative energy costs, which could again make nuclear power an increasingly attractive option."

Mr Wakeham adds that Nuclear Electric will inherit all the nuclear assets, expertise and support currently residing in the Central Electricity Generating Board, including the CEBG's rightly praised expertise in health and safety. Safety will continue to be paramount.

"The company will be a substantial one with a positive cash flow. It could provide be-

tween 15 and 20 per cent of electricity supplied in the mid-1990s and it will retain the role to construct and operate new nuclear capacity. We want to preserve the strategic role of nuclear power in order to maintain adequate diversity of electricity supply, avoid too great a reliance on a single fuel and obtain the benefits of this environmentally clean source of energy."

Mr Wakeham adds that Nuclear Electric will have a long-term future as a supplier of electricity and should provide continuing attractive employment opportunities.

The pension rights of individual staff will be protected and the privatization of the other parts of the industry will be done in such a way that the staff who remain with Nuclear Electric will have the same employee benefits in terms of share-buying schemes as their former colleagues who are moving into the private sector.

However, many involved in

Nuclear Electric are going through the second upheaval in their working lives. First they were switched from the CEBG into National Power, and now they are moving into Nuclear Electric. The structure will be much as it was when it was planned to operate as a National Power division but with corporate headquarters at Barnwood, Gloucestershire, and production management centred at Bedminster Down, Bristol. There will also be offices at Knutsford and at Berkeley Nuclear Laboratories and a small corporate office in London.

Mark Baker, the division's corporate affairs director, says: "The London office will be very small with no more than a handful of people. Corporate staff allocated to us will have to relocate to Barnwood or Bedminster Down. We recognize that relocation can raise real problems for staff and their families. We are offering a counselling service to help ensure

that the move goes as smoothly as possible. We will also be offering the same relocation package that National Power offers to its staff."

National Power has moved quickly to establish its identity and its logo is becoming familiar within the industry. The symbol, designed to represent the double containment surrounding a nuclear reactor core, is intended to show the strong emphasis being placed by the division's management on safety and robustness.

John Coffier, chairman of Nuclear Electric, says: "The company name shows that our role is to help meet the nation's electricity needs by generating power from nuclear sources."

Susan Lee, of Lloyd Northover, the design consultants, which created the logo and house style, says the design uses cool, muted colours with a clear, simple typeface and a solid, strong logo to symbolize reliability, robustness and safety. She says: "As we talked to managers and staff, these were the words that emerged time and again to describe the way people who worked in the industry regarded the company."



Confidence in safety: Hinckley Point runs an eel farm in its cooling waters

Scotland's two power companies, regarded as among the most efficient in Britain, will offer solid competition under privatization and will trade across the border

Scotland runs its own race when it comes to power. It produces its own electricity, charges its own prices and, as with France, passes electricity across the border only on a sound commercial basis.

As a small country with a population of about five million, Scotland has only two electricity boards. Both are different from their English counterparts and are regarded as two of the most efficient and innovative in Britain.

Scottish Power, formerly the South of Scotland Electricity Board, serves most of the country's power consumers, those in the densely populated southern areas, including the industrial Central Belt. The other company is Scottish Hydro Electric, which uses the mountainous and remote terrain of the Highlands to generate power, as its name suggests, from running water. It serves nearly all the country north of the Clyde and Tay rivers, but only a tiny section of the population.

Both companies boast a robust mix of generation techniques—Hydro Electric with hydro stations, pumped storage and Peterhead's oil and gas; Scottish Power with coal stations at Longannet and Cockenzie, pump-

## Contenders in the northern market

ed storage at Cruachan and a small hydro sector. The capacity is shared between the companies through contractual agreements.

Scottish Power's 1.7 million customers receive electricity generated mainly from nuclear sources. Much of the company's output is sold to giant industrial concerns, such as the Ravenscraig steel complex in Lanarkshire.

The most unusual feature of the two Scottish boards is that they operate their own power generation. Scottish Power owns and operates the country's two nuclear complexes, at Torness, East Lothian and Hunterston, Ayrshire.

However, under the privatization legislation neither company will be allowed to generate nuclear power. Scotland's nuclear capacity is to be maintained through a State-owned company, Scottish Nuclear, in a bid to allay public fears concerning ownership.

Scottish Power was disappointed over the restriction, believing it has the technical expertise necessary to maintain nuclear generation under its new

commercial guise. But Donald Miller, the chairman of Scottish Power, is satisfied with the commercial terms the company has been able to negotiate. He says the company, with its wide choice of fuel, will be immune to sudden price changes. Scottish Power has drawn up contracts to sell coal-sourced output to Hydro Electric

in return for pumped storage capacity from the Cruachan hydro station in Argyll, owned by the other board.

Scottish Power will also seek customers in England and Wales through the cross-border power line, the so-called interconnector. This almost certainly will be upgraded.

Scottish Hydro Electric, previously the North of Scotland Hydro Board, will begin trading from the end of the month in the run-up to the stock market flotation. It has 25 per cent of the UK land mass in its area, but only 2 per cent of the population.

Distribution costs are high but are offset by the extent of free fuel

—Highlands water.

Other fuel sources include oil, gas and coal. From early 1992, gas will become even more important when the output from the Miller field in the North Sea is piped ashore and burned at the Peterhead station, Aberdeenshire.

Hydro Electric says this mix of power eases problems of fuel price and supply and engineering.

The hydro source, and with it, the pumped storage capacity, gives Hydro Electric greater flexibility than its competitors. Production costs will also be low if the company can negotiate a satisfactory supply contract with Scottish Nuclear.

Hydro Electric has 596,960 customers. Almost 80 per cent of its sales are domestic and commercial. This is considered to be an advantage because it provides a stable and relatively invulnerable selling base. The management says it would be extremely difficult for other electricity companies to penetrate these sectors.

Industrial customers make up

only 19 per cent of sales, but Roger Young, Hydro Electric's chief executive, says his management team is taking a more aggressive approach to win and retain its business.

"We take the view that we must give them a deal which makes it unattractive for them to go and look for power elsewhere. We have made a point of approaching all our big industrial customers individually and saying, 'Let's start again with a clean sheet of paper in front of us and discuss contracts'."

Hydro Electric has already announced two major partnership deals south of the border. The aim is to capitalize on the English market by building gas-fired power stations on Teesside and Barking Reach in east London.

The company believes its main competition will be British Gas. Yet it says it has two advantages: firstly, it does not expect a local counter-attack from a UK-wide company and, secondly, British Gas would have to invest in new mains to gain access to a largely domestic market.

Hydro Electric has already made the investment in a complete distribution system and is now reaping the benefits.

Kerry Gill



The nuclear restriction: Scotland's Torness power plant will come under the control of a state-owned company

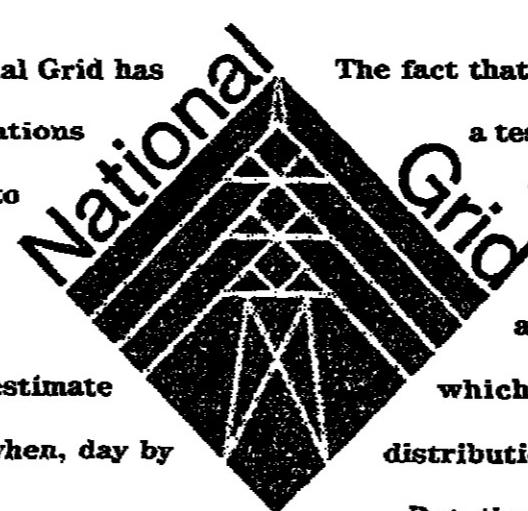
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## Ngugi for London marathon

From David Powell  
Athletics Correspondent  
Aix-les-Bains

John Ngugi, the Olympic 5,000 metres champion, and four times winner of the world cross-country title, is to make his marathon debut in London next month (David Powell with details).

David Griffiths, the ADT London Marathon assistant race director, signed up the Kenyan star at the weekend after travelling from London to Aix-les-Bains, where the world cross-country championships took place on Saturday with that specific intention.

Ngugi's name is added to a field which includes Beynch Darmo, the holder of the world's fastest time, and Paul David-Hall, the British winner of the Chicago Marathon.

According to Griffiths, an information received from the athlete's coach, Ngugi is "going to try hard to put in a good performance".

Griffiths does not intend to stop at Ngugi. He is trying to persuade the Kenyans to send more athletes for the race on April 22.

• Salford won the English cross-country relay championship for the second time at Mansfield Nottinghamshire. Sale won the women's title, with Julie Holland, now fully recovered from a hit-and-run accident which sidelined her for two weeks, returning the day's fastest time of 10min 19sec.

## Taylor a victim of calendar

There is more than one way to become world cross-country champion, as the contrasting victories of Khalid Skad and Lynn Jennings showed here on Saturday, but there was a common factor, too: both had run indoors this winter and the fast and flat Hippodrome racecourse was more like track racing than the British definition of cross country.

Britain had prepared on mud and hills and the result was an ignominious ninth place for their men. Richard Nerurkar and Adrian Passey should be applauded for making the top 30, but the failure of Paul Taylor to finish underlined the chronic problem of the unsuitable British calendar. Taylor had run the English national and the British trial in the month before and knew he was too tired to perform well here.

Skad had recorded 7min 48sec for 3,000 metres indoors, and his pace proved the decisive factor as he outpointed two Kenyans, Moses Tamui and Julius Korir. After 12,200 metres, the three were separated by only two

seconds. By contrast, Jennings had broken the women's field in the first 1,000 metres and was an unchallenged winner, 1.2sec ahead of the runner-up, Alberta Dias, of Portugal. An eight minutes 40 seconds 3,000 metres indoors had helped her to "feel like I am breathing fire on the starting line these days".

Skad, aged 23, is not quite the unknown some would have us believe. He was among the world's fastest 5,000 metres runners last year, recording 13 minutes 17 seconds. Another Moroccan to follow Said Aouita, perhaps? "I would like to beat the world record in the 10,000 metres," Skad said. That did not sound unlike Aouita.

John Ngugi is hoping to beat Skad to it. He said on Friday that the world 10,000

### RESULTS FROM AIX-LES-BAINS

**WOMEN (12km):** 1. K Skad (Mor), 4min 21sec; 2. L Jennings (USA), 12min 24; 3. L Vilas (Port), 12min 25; 4. L Vilas (Port), 12min 25; 5. N Alberta (Por), 12min 26; 6. V Ghezzi (Rom), 12min 27; 7. C Ferraro (Por), 12min 28; 8. V Ghezzi (Rom), 12min 28; 9. L Jennings (USA), 12min 29; 10. N Alberta (Por), 12min 30; 11. R Nerurkar (Ken), 12min 32; 12. J Negura (Rom), 12min 33; 13. D Corrao (Ita), 12min 34; 14. P Passey (GBR), 12min 35; 15. A Skad (Mor), 12min 36; 16. T Tamai (Jpn), 12min 37; 17. E Merenda (Ken), 12min 38; 18. F Tamai (Jpn), 12min 39; 19. M Tamai (Jpn), 12min 40; 20. J Ngugi (Ken), 12min 41; 21. E Estevan (Spa), 12min 42; 17. A Skad (Mor), 12min 43; 22. T Tamai (Jpn), 12min 44; 23. S. Vazquez (Esp), 12min 45; 24. M Tamai (Jpn), 12min 46; 25. M Tamai (Jpn), 12min 47; 26. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 48; 27. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 49; 28. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 50; 29. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 51; 30. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 52; 31. M. Tamai (Jpn), 12min 53; 32. M. 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# Smart In Excess to sprint home

By Mandarin  
(Michael Phillips)

Bill O'Gorman, responsible for Saturday's Doncaster winner, Mac's Fighter, can strike again at Leicester today by winning the Lodgington Stakes with In Excess. The Newmarket trainer won the corresponding race 12 months ago with Miss Blitz.

Unless a pattern of a lifetime changes, O'Gorman will, like his father, always be associated with good fast horses. Mac's Fighter apart, Brondesbury, Superlative and Provideo are others who spring readily to mind.

Without being nearly as precocious as Provideo, who won 15 races as a two-year-old for Ahmed Foustok in 1984, the same owner's In Excess still looked as though he

would develop into a smart sprinter, judged on the little we saw of him last year.

By that good French horse, Siberian Express, out of a mare by Saulingo whose pedigree is ingrained with speed, In Excess performed well for one with comparatively little experience at Redcar last October when fourth in the very valuable Racecard Gold Trophy.

Before that, he had beaten Halston Prince, a hot favourite trained by Henry Cecil, at Lingfield more easily than the judge's verdict of three-quarters of a length might suggest.

None of his five rivals today can match that record, even though three of them are winners.

With Childrey, Enharmonic and Eton Lad all standing

their ground, the Burton Overy Stakes has developed into a tricky affair.

Evaluating Eton Lad's second to Treble Eight at Newmarket last is largely guesswork, since the race was confined to horses who had never run. However, the fourth, Benzine, went on to finish third behind Candy Glen in the Gran Criterium in Milan, so the form cannot be too bad.

All the same, I still doubt Eton Lad is being quite sharp enough to cope with Childrey, who was beaten only a neck and the same in an all-aged race at Newmarket in the autumn; that after bolting home by five lengths at Folkestone first time out.

At Folkestone today, Luca Cumani's 187-horsepower sta-

ble swings into action when True Dividend contests the Rochester Graduation Stakes.

Although obviously not easy to train, this beautifully bred colt by Blushing Groom must have shown something at home because he was backed down to 7-4 from 10-1 to win his only race at Ascot last autumn, and that by a stable not renowned for getting things wrong in the market.

Also, they have deemed it worthwhile persevering with a horse who is now a four-year-old maiden.

Otherwise, it should pay to follow Staunch Rival (4.15) and Jazaf (4.45) on the east Kent course as both showed the requisite promise at Leicester towards the end of last season.

**Blinkered first time**

FOLKESTONE: 2.15 No 16 Gt. Sire: Special Love; 3.45 Honour Graduate: 4.15 Drift Stream Rival. LEICESTER: 3.0 Tongue-Tied Johnny.

## LEICESTER

### Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Mr Mad.  
2.30 Vaigly Perceptive.  
3.00 Proud Patriot.  
3.30 Childrey.  
4.00 Nusakan.  
4.30 In Excess.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 Captain Kagar.  
2.30 Abridge's Dream.  
3.00 Mr Taylor.  
3.30 Enharmonic.  
4.00 Nusakan.  
4.30 IN EXCESS (nap).

Michael Seely's selection: 2.00 Simmie's Special. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 CHILDREY.

### Going: good to firm

### Draw: no advantage

2.0 KNIGHTON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,489; 5) (13 runners)

1 (8)	ON THE LINE (P Swell) H Easterby 8-11	K Darley
2 (2)	SIMMIE'S SPECIAL (C Doherty) R Hollinshead 8-9	S Purdie
3 (12)	MAGGIES LAD (B Brownstone) T Palmerst 8-7	K Broadbent (7)
4 (16)	MAD (S Holt) C Tyndale 8-5	M Head
5 (1)	NASCAR (D) (P Swell) O Breen 8-4	M Adams
6 (1)	AMERICAN DUX (T Taylor) J Hetherington 8-2	R Corriveau
7 (11)	CAPTAIN KAGAR (M Griffith) R Stobbs 8-2	R Corriveau
8 (4)	GODDE TIME BOY (L Norman) M Brittan 8-2	S McEvoy (9)
9 (2)	SIBERIAN EXPRESS (Sad Power) K Wingrove 8-1	J Fortune (5)
10 (7)	MUSKY BOFF (J Brown) J Berry 7-12	J Colvin
11 (9)	MISS ED (Niall) (A Graham) A Jason 7-10	N Cartlidge
12 (9)	SWEET SPOT (Simpson) P Cullen 7-10	F Norton (7)
13 (2)	WHERE'S CAROL (Luton) M W Easterby 7-10	J Lovell

BETTING: 5-2 Musky Boff, 7-2 On The Line, 6-1 Maggies Lad, 7-1 Mad, 8-1 Where's Carol, 9-1 Simon's Special, Good Time Boy, 10-1.

1988: GIVE IN 8-5 A Proud (12) Mrs N Macaulay 14 ran

**FORM FOCUS** CAPTAIN KAGAR (3) (16) closed leaders and won impressively two out when fifth in 14 beaten 10% by Isogami with MAGGIES LAD (3) (12) soon outpaced. MUSKY BOFF (3) (10) with a stable that does not enter in the events, cost 3,000gns and outdid with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET MAD from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET MAGGIES LAD (3) (12) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET MUSKY BOFF (3) (10) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET SIMMIE'S SPECIAL (3) (16) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET WHERE'S CAROL (3) (10) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET WINTER (3) (12) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET YARAHAMAN (3) (10) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

NET ZYTHON (3) (10) from the same stable which fended a gemble with Friday's Doncaster two-year-old winner.

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## TENNIS

# Young Seles emerges as a new threat to Graf

From Andrew Longmore, Tennis Correspondent  
Key Biscayne, Florida

The news that Monica Seles has won the biggest title of her career at the Lipton International here will doubtless have filtered through to Steffi Graf in West Germany by now, and Graf should have an extra spring in her step as she starts to get back to full fitness this week.

Graf has always regarded Seles as one of the most likely threats to her dominance in the long term, and her prediction, on the evidence of Seles's 6-1, 6-2, victory over Judith Wiesner in a championship which is one of the richest — Seles will \$112,500 into her piggy bank — and toughest outside the grand slam events, rings more true now.

Graf has been out of action for more than a month after injuring her right thumb in a skiing accident, and is due to make her comeback at the end of April.

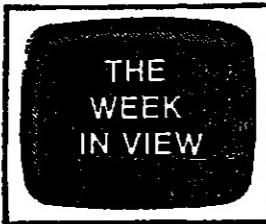
She will have to be ready then, because there are queues forming to push her off her pedestal. Standing in line already are the defending French Open champion, Sanchez Vicario, Sabatini, and Fernandez, while Capriati and Seles have also moved closer to the front over the past two weeks. By the time of the French Open it could be quite a scrum, and at Wimbledon will be Navratilova, too.

"If there is a time when Steffi could be vulnerable, it will be in the run-up to the French," Pam Shriver, who is now a commentator for American television, said. "Not just because of her thumb injury, but because at

Seles is growing up, and her near faultless post-match interview, in which she thanked everyone from the ball boys to the sponsors and spectators — as she put it, "least but not last, myself" — showed her increasing self-assurance.

RESULTS: Women's singles final: M Seles (USA) d J Wiesner (Austria), 6-1, 6-2. Mixed doubles final: J Pugh and R Leach (GB) d S Becker (WGR) and G Monfort (SWE), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.

## High-style starters for those on cable



*Ken Lawrence's guide to the best of the week's sport on television*

Gianc will be watching and cheering for Light Blue or Dark on Saturday, when Harry Carpenter, hoping no doubt for sunshine and calm water, once again introduces the Boat Race.

Should he reach the indecisive final pitch of John Snape all those years ago — he cried in desperation: "I cannot see who is in the lead; it is either Oxford or Cambridge" — Carpenter will have the seasoned eye of Chris Baile, the former Olympic sculler, to sort things out.

This exhausting up-river race is just part of a packed Grandstand. Oldham's rugby league men bid to join their football compatriots at Wembley by beating Warrington in the Silk Cup semi-final at Wigan (1.55); there are highlights from the women's hockey at Wembley yesterday; a British cruiserweight title fight from York Hall; the world trials motorcycle racing championship; and four races from Ascot.

Greater Manchester's sporting attributes grow: footballer, cricketer and now snooker supporter: the BBC has scheduled him to rush from (hopefully) scoring a couple of goals at

the end of the day.

BSB will be showing the Masters live from Augusta on all four days next month and will have similar coverage of two other golf majors, the US Open and US PGA.

I once knew a man who attended neither Oxford nor Cambridge, yet every year he would bet on Oxford, wear a dark blue scarf and sit on water at Twickenham, Lord's, Wembley or the Thames towpath. He has long gone, but his spirit lingers.

Millions who have no alle-

### THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TOMORROW: Motor racing: After 24 hours, Murray Walker should be word perfect with the highlights from the Grand Prix in São Paulo (1.45pm).

TOMORROW: Cricket: Is it really possible that England can go up against West Indies? Tony Greig will be telling you (Sky, 1pm, 3pm).

WEDNESDAY: Sportsnight: England testing, one hopes, Brazil at football and the West Indies at cricket in the one programme giving the one edge on a busy night (BBC1, 10.20pm).

THURSDAY: Motor sport: The Indy 500 is always edge-of-the-seat stuff. That's 1989 highlights are just that (Screensport, 8.30pm).

FRIDAY: Football: Bobby Moore in Sport on Friday looking back at the 1966 World Cup and forward to the Euros. David Lee takes his programme with some rallying and saloon car racing (BBC1, 2.30pm).

SATURDAY: Grandstand: From Rugby League's cup semi-final to the Boat Race, an all-action afternoon must not be missed (BBC1, 12.15pm).

SUNDAY: The Match: Can Manchester City put a brake on Aston Villa's unconvincing bid for the League championship? We shall see (ITV, 3.20pm).

### TODAY'S FIXTURES

#### 7.30 unless stated

#### FOOTBALL

#### GMI Vauxhall Conference

#### Kidderminster v Yeovil

#### Bob Lord Trophy

#### Third round

#### Telford v Northwich

#### PONTING CENTRAL LEAGUE

#### First division: 7.30pm

#### Hall v Everton; Sheffield Utd v

#### Leicester; Second division: Burnley v

#### Middlesbrough v West Bromwich

#### CLUB CUP: Semi-Final

#### Southgate v Hyde v

#### Cole Dynamos

#### VASDAHL LEAGUE: Premier division

#### Deportivo V v Vasdahl, First division: Croydon v Southwick

#### WALES NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherstone v Salford

#### WENDY FAIR CAPITAL LEAGUE: Cambridgeshire v Wycombe Wanderers; Wokingham v Solihull

#### BASSEY CUP: Semi-Final

#### Southgate v Halesowen v Halesowen; Southern division: Halesowen v

#### Consett (7.45pm)

#### RUGBY UNION

#### WHITEHORN YORKSHIRE CUP: First

#### division: Bradford and Bingley v

#### Harrogate (8.00pm)

#### OTHER SPORT

#### BOWLS: Masters

#### BOXING: British heavyweight eliminator: Donnie Houch v Keith Wallace (Hospitality Inn, Glasgow)

#### MOTORCYCLING: Screenport: Speedway: Gloucester v Coventry; Cheltenham v Long Eaton

#### SNOKER: World championship final qualifying round: Preston

#### ICE HOCKEY: Screenport: 5.30pm and 7.15pm: National Hockey League: Game of the week: New Jersey Devils v Boston Bruins, and North American League

#### SWIMMING: 5.30pm: National Hockey League: Game of the week: New Jersey Devils v Boston Bruins, and North American League

#### ATHLETICS: 7.30pm: Review of the week's highlights from the Grand Prix in São Paulo (8.30pm, 4pm).

#### BASEBALL: Screenport: 7.30pm: Highlights from the 1989 World Series

#### BASKETBALL: Screenport: 8.30-10am and 2-3.30pm: College match: Highlights of the ACC championship.

#### POWER SPORTS INTERNATIONAL: Screenport 11am-midday

#### RACING: Screenport: 8.30-3pm and 10.45-11.15pm: Highlights from the 1990 Formula 1 World Series

#### SATURDAY: Screenport: 7.30pm: Highlights from the 1990 Formula 1 World Series

#### ENGLISH SCHOOLS TROPHY: Semifinal: Sunday 1st Hull (at Roker Park, 7.00pm)

#### EQUESTRIAN: Europe: 4.45pm

#### EUROSPORT MENU: Eurosport: 8.30pm

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## FOOTBALL

# Nervous smiles from United as Webb returns to lift hopes

By Clive White

**Southampton** ..... 0  
**Manchester United** ..... 2

The slightly nervous, involuntary smiles of Alex Ferguson and Bobby Charlton seemed to fill The Dell's narrow corridor where they had congregated.

Even Lawrie McMenemy felt compelled to join in the happy scene. No one would dare tempt fate by suggesting it, but there was a feeling that the sleeping giant was waking from its nightmare.

Victory was mighty important to Manchester United on Saturday. Defeat would have left them vulnerable to the threat of Manchester City who, with a game in hand, would have been in a position to consign United to a place in the bottom three with just seven matches to go.

But more than the breathing space which this unexpected win gave United, the most cheering news was the impressive return of Webb after rupturing his Achilles tendon.

In the 24 minutes that he

was on the field as substitute for Gibson, also making a triumphant return from injury, he did enough to indicate that he could play a crucial role not only in United's fight against relegation but also in their quest for FA Cup glory.

Webb felt sufficiently uplifted to announce afterwards that he had set himself three targets, the two already mentioned plus a place in England's World Cup squad.

At the moment, Webb, who hopes to accelerate his return to full fitness by playing for the reserves tomorrow, would appear to have an even better chance of realising that three-fold ambition than Robson, who suffered a setback this week in recovery from a hernia operation. The United and England captain was the only notable absentee as United finished the match with the strongest line-up that they have been able to field in a long while.

Whether it justified a £13 million price-tag was another matter. But it was certainly too good for a Southampton side that played well below par.

An even more disconsolate figure was Andrews, the Southampton reserve goalkeeper. However, one might have liked to attribute United's second goal to Webb's shooting power, the fact is Andrews ought to have held his shot. Instead, he allowed the shot to bounce off his chest straight to Robins, the substitute, who with his first touch of the ball gratefully accepted the reward which had been due to the indefatigable Hughes for 88 minutes.

**SOUTHAMPTON:** I. Andrews, J. Dods, F. Barnes, S. James, M. Moore, R. O'Connor, R. Wallace, G. Cockburn, A. Shaefer, B. Horne, M. Le Tissier.

**MANCHESTER UNITED:** J. Leighton, M. Doneghy, L. Martin, S. Bruce, M. Philpot, P. McCallister, M. Hughes (sub: M. Hobson), D. Wallace.

Referee: M. L. James.

would suggest that he is still several weeks away from fitness and that his place in England's 22-man squad for the finals is in jeopardy.

Bobby Robson, the England manager, has, on several occasions, made it clear that the player will have to prove his recovery if he is to travel to Italy.

The Football Association yesterday confirmed that Bobby Charlton, the former England international, who is a director of Manchester United, had been banned from receiving tickets for the FA Cup final for a period of three years.

## Fears continue for state of Robson's fitness

With the start of the World Cup just 10 weeks away, the fitness of Bryan Robson, the Manchester United and England captain, is still giving cause for concern (Ian Ross writes).

Robson's recovery from an operation on a damaged groin muscle is taking longer than was first expected, and it is unlikely that he will be available for the FA Cup semi-final against Oldham Athletic at Maine Road on Sunday week.

Indeed, the fact that Robson had to be withdrawn from a practice match late last week

suggests that he is still not fully fit and that his place in England's 22-man squad for the finals is in jeopardy.

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# SPORT

MONDAY MARCH 26 1990

## England face their first crisis

From Alan Lee  
Cricket Correspondent  
Port of Spain

The weather factor, already a strong influence in this Test series, turned on England in unfriendly fashion yesterday. A wet morning and a delayed start on a pitch enlivened by sweating under cover, cost England much of the advantage for which they had worked so assiduously on the first two days.

It was bad enough that Graham Gooch's selfless vigil, spanning six and a half hours and three playing days, ended in the first over with the captain 16 runs short of a century he richly deserved.

But in mid-afternoon England were confronting their first crisis of this Cable and Wireless series as they lost three wickets in four balls with their lead a fragile 15 runs.

The wickets were taken by fast bowling from Bishop and Moseley, of a belief and intensity which recalled the familiar English horrors in recent series. It was as if West Indies had suddenly awoken to the notion that not just another match but the entire series was slipping away from them. They reacted in a manner which throws ominous new light on the cricket still to come.

The clouds were grey and low over the northern hills by breakfast time and, an hour before the start, rain set in with a will. As invariably happens on this island, it promised more than it produced and play began 20 minutes before lunch, 25 overs having been subtracted from the day's allocation.

Gooch resumed on 83 and added only one more before falling to the fifth ball of Bishop's opening over. For much of Saturday Bishop had bowled within himself but now, encouraged by the moisture in the pitch, he raced in venomously and Gooch, playing back, connected with the thinnest of edges to Dujon.

Lamb and Smith both lived dangerously until lunch but for 40 minutes afterwards they played with the calm assurance which epitomized their partnership of 172 in Kingston. The lead expanded, run by invaluable runs, until the collapse which changed the game.

Smith was first to go, playing forward and beaten by unsuspected lift. It gave Dujon his fourth catch of the innings and, more significantly, Moseley his first wicket in a Test career which he must have signified to his list of unfulfilled ambitions when he set off for South Africa.

A drinks interval followed which may have done little for Rob Bailey's nerves as he approached his second Test, 18 months after his first. Moseley dropped short, Andy, unprepared, threw up a defensive arm and the ball looped off his glove to Logie at short-leg.



Dance of delight: the West Indies fielders celebrate as Gooch is caught behind off Ambrose after his lengthy innings

### SCOREBOARD FROM TRINIDAD

England won toss

#### West Indies First Innings

	6s	4s	Mins	Balls
C G Greenidge c Stewart b Malcolm	5	1	21	11
W Haynes c Lamb b Small	5	1	48	34
R B Richardson c Russell b Fraser	10	1	54	36
C A Lamb c Lamb b Fraser	9	1	40	10
T P J L Dujon lbw b Small	9	1	237	129
A L Logie c Lamb b Fraser	32	2	71	67
C L Hooper c Russell b Small	7	1	102	10
I R Bishop c Malcolm	16	1	33	15
C A Welsh not out	11			
Extras (6 4, nb 7)				
Total (65.1 overs, 316min)	198			
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-5, 3-22, 4-27, 5-23, 6-92, 7-93, 8-103, 9-177.				
BOWLING: Small 17-4-41-2; Malcolm 20-2-59-4 (nb 4); Frasier 13-1-24-3 (nb 3); Capel 15-2-53-1 (nb 1).				

#### England First Innings

	6s	4s	Mins	Balls
G A Gooch c Dujon b Bishop	84	3	388	253
W Lamb c Dujon b Ambrose	54	5	242	154
A J Stewart c Dujon b Ambrose	9	1	93	60
A J Lamb b Bishop	32	3	125	93
R A Smith c Dujon b Moseley	5	1	40	28
D J Bailey c Logie b Moseley	6	1	2	1
T R Russell not out	30			
Extras (6 4, nb 7)				
Total (9wkt, 100 overs)	227			
Fall of wickets 1-112, 2-125, 3-195, 4-214, 5-214, 6-214.				
Umpires: C Cummins and L Banks.				

If this was a sad moment, an undeniably more damaging one was looming. The second ball of Bishop's new over was short, mean and extremely quick. Lamb got in a tangle taking his eye off the ball; it rose less than expected and hit him on the helmet before dropping onto the stumps.

England's assurance at 195 for two, had now become acute anxiety at 214 for six and suddenly it was down to Capel, patently out of form and the ever-willing Russell to

ensure that two days of hard labour was not completely laid to waste.

Saturday had seen Gooch in single-minded mood. He took the view that England needed him to bat all day and, to that end, he eliminated all risks from his game, confining himself to two controlled pulls and ignoring anything short on the off-side.

It did not make for exciting viewing — indeed one Trinidadian Sunday newspaper labelled it "one of the least

interesting moments

of the year".

England's captain, however,

had been caught at mid-on, trying to lift Traicos into the deep field, and Blakey had been given out, caught at slip, off his arm guard.

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On Saturday, Zimbabwe had been dismissed for 149. Using their height well to utilize the extra lift available, Iglesias, who finished with five wickets, and Watkin were

the only ones to reap the most benefit.

England were left to face an awkward three overs at the end of the day, and off the third ball of the first of these, Darren Bicknell was caught at short-leg, which brought Illingworth to the wicket.

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